FBIS DAILY REPORT

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BETANCUR CLOSES ANDEAN PACT MEETING

PA181402 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1309 GMT 16 Sep 85

[Text] Cartagena de Indias (Colombia) (EFE) -- Tonight, Colombian President Belisario Betancur closed the 2-day ministerial summit meeting of the Andean Group which studied the reactivation of that subregional integration agency. My government did come here to give a decent burial to the Cartagena Agreement, the Colombian president said firmly in his address to the ministers of foreign relations and of economic areas of the five countries within the group: Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela.

The work by the Andean Economic Council, which was attended for the first time by the former ministers, thus giving the meeting greater political content, ended with a formal declaration which reflects the five government's commitment to expedite the negotiations of the protocol to revise the agreement.

The highlight of the 2 days of closed-door meetings, held at the El Monzanillo house for distinguished visitors in this Caribbean city, was the agreement of a deadline to develop and establish the new structure for the integration agency and to adopt it to the members' current economic situations.

The foreign ministers, acting as representatives of this government's political commitment, set a deadline of 60 days for the economy, treasury, commerce, industry, and integration ministers who met in Cartagena to carry out this task. Afterward, each Andean nation will carry out this task and implement the group's revised statutes.

Reflecting the mood of the meetings, Betancur said that this was not the time to make a self-congratulatory or complacent study of the integration process, but the opposite, to get the process running again with fewer obstacles from the hostile path of the international economy.

The meeting's final declaration stated that the emergency plan for the economic future of the agreement must deal with the reestablishment of flows of commercial exchange, cooperation, and coordination among its members.

The declaration states that the group's final objective is to create an Andean common market, yet -- reflecting the pragmatic mood that characterized the talks -- it leaves the door open for temporary commercial agreements between countries in order to inject vitality into commerce.

The declaration mentions the main obstacles to achieving integration, such as the group's controversial Decision No. 24 on foreign investment, and urges that the operational capacity of Andean financial organism be improved and the policies to promote the acquisition of resources destined for integration be defined.

The declaration also contains ideas on ways to give greater flexibility to industrial policies, limit tariff barriers [defensa arancelaria], and promote agricultural development as a way of achieving food self-sufficiency in the Andean subregion.

COMMUNIQUE ON ALFONSIN-KINNOCK MEETING IN PARIS

PY191842 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1116 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Paris, 19 Sep (NA) -- Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and British opposition leader Neil Kinnock have agreed on the need for the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Argentina and the United Kingdom. They also stated their common desire that "negotiations should be initiated to explore the means of solving the outstanding problems between the two countries, including all aspects of the future of the Malvinas Islands," which implicitly includes the sovereignty issue. These remarks are part of a joint press communique that the Alfonsin and Kinnock delegations issued after meeting for 1 hour yesterday in Room 207 of the Bristol Hotel, considered "neutral" ground because neither of the two delegations is staying there. Herewith is the text of the communique:

On 18 September 1985 in Paris, Argentine President Raul Alfonsin met with the Rt Hon Neil Kinnock, MP, leader of the opposition Labor Party. The two parties were accompanied by Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and Labor Party Foreign Relations spokesman Rt Hon Denis Healey, MP. President Alfonsin and Mr Kinnock agreed on the importance that the current democratization process in Latin America has, not only for the peoples of that region, but also for development, stability, and justice throughout the world.

Mr Kinnock positively evaluated the reestablishment and progress of democracy in Argentina, the effects of the measures that President Alfonsin's administration has implemented to defend human civil rights, the reinstatement of justice and the submission to it of those who so seriously violated its provisions.

The two parties agreed that the continuing economic crisis is the worst threat to democracy and peace in Latin America. Democratic stability in the continent is obviously tightly tied to the possibilities of economic growth. The main obstacles that developing countries are facing are the international financial system which denies them the resources necessary for their development and keeps interest rates at harmfully high levels, as well as the distortion of world trade owing to the growth of protectionism and the decline of the terms of trade to the detriment of these countries.

President Alfonsin and Mr Kinnock agreed on the need for urgent and substantial changes in the international economic system. More specifically, they considered that Latin America's foreign debt must be approached from a political standpoint by the governments of both creditor and debtor countries in order to guarantee development for the region and, therefore, support for its democratic systems. President Alfonsin and Mr Kinnock stressed that the above-mentioned reforms will be a source of mutual advantages as far as stability and employment is concerned for both developed and developing countries.

The parties stated their strong desire for swift progress in the negotiations that the Contadora Group is conducting to bring peace to Central America, and Mr Kinnock stressed the significance of the recent creation of a support group for these negotiations made up of Latin American democratic governments, the Argentine Government among them. President Alfonsin and Mr Kinnock emphasized the duty that Latin American and European democracies have to make efforts to guarantee peace and economic development in Central America and also stressed the significant role everyone's determination will play to make attitudes and negotiations constructive and directed at guaranteeing self-determination, demilitarization, respect for human rights, and economic development in that region.

The two parties agreed on the need for the reestablishment of diplomatic and commercial relations between Argentina and the United Kingdom. To this effect they stated their common desire that negotiations should be initiated to explore the means for solving the outstanding problems between the two countries, including all aspects of the future of the Malvinas Islands. The two parties jointly stressed that it is very important for the inhabitants of the islands to have effective guarantees that their customs, lifestyle, and traditions will be preserved and that their administrative system, education, and social and economic organization will be respected. In this regard, Mr Kinnock indicated that it is essential to take the islanders' interests into account, and President Alfonsin pointed out that the Argentine democratic Constitution provides for a broad range of rights.

President Alfonsin and Mr Kinnock conveyed their gratitude to the secretariat of the Socialist International for making their fruitful encounter possible.

PROSECUTOR SEEKS LIFE SENTENCES FOR VIDELA, VIOLA

PY182243 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2014 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Sep (TELAM) -- Prosecutor Julio Cesar Strassera today requested life imprisonment sentences for the following individuals: Jorge Rafael Videla, Emilio Massera, Orlando Agosti, Roberto Viola, and Armando Lambruschini. For Leopoldo Galtieri and Omar Graffignia he requested 15 years imprisonment, for Jorge Anaya 12 years, and for Basilio Arturo Lami Dozo he requested 10 years imprisonment.

Wants More Officers Investigated

PY182251 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2025 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Sep (TELAM) -- Prosecutor Julio Cesar Strassera today requested the federal court to investigate the human rights violations that were allegedly committed under the fourth military junta of the last de facto government which was made up of Lieutenant General Cristino Nicolaides, Brigadier General Augusto Hughes, and Admiral Ruben Franco.

USSR BUYS LAND FOR EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES

PY171924 Buenos Aires AMBITO FINANCIERO in Spanish 29 Aug 85 p 1 section 4

[Excerpt] For 2,227,700 Foreign Bonds, series 82, equivalent to $1,587,240 at the 27 August rate of exchange, the Soviet Union has purchased the second block in Bajo Belgrano, now called New Belgrano, where the new Soviet Embassy in Buenos Aires will be built. Through this purchase, the USSR has also acquired ground for building its consulate and residences for diplomats stationed in our country.

The block, bordered by Blanco Encalada, Olazabal, Cazadores, and Husares Streets, is added to another neighboring property bought in June 1984 for the equivalent of 2,020,400 Foreign Bonds, series 82, where the Soviet trade delegation office will be built.

REPORTAGE ON EVENTS FOLLOWING STATE OF SIEGE

Demonstration Broken Up

PY191537 Paris AFP in Spanish 1505 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] La Paz, 19 Sep (AFP) -- A demonstration by La Paz factory workers who were marching from workers neighborhoods to downtown La Paz was broken up today by special Bolivian Police units using tear gas bombs. The workers were protesting the administration's new economic policy and its decision to decree a state of siege and curfew, as well as the arrest of union leaders who were staging hunger strikes at various labor union headquarters.

The director of Radio Continental, which belongs to the Federation of Factory workers, has reported that his station was intervened early this morning. He added that journalists Elmo Solano and Eduardo Godoy were arrested. Radio Continental Director Gaston Lobaton said that the Army has also taken over labor union radio stations owned by the oilworkers in Santa Cruz and the miners in Oruro and Huanuni.

For their part, La Paz media workers union leaders have reported that 10 mineworkers' wives are continuing their hunger strike at union headquarters and that 29 women employees of the state oil company are in the Mexican Embassy in La Paz.

Union Leaders Banished

PY191614 Paris AFP in Spanish 1550 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] La Paz, 19 Sep (AFP) -- Bolivian Information Minister Reynaldo Peters today announced that the union leaders who were arrested by the police early this morning have been banished. The minister explained that this measure is provided for in the Bolivian Constitution, which empowers the government to resort to the forces of order to preserve the security of the country and its people. Peters also announced that in the coming hours the government will report the destination and the names of the individuals banished. He indicated that the state of siege is a purely preventive measure.

The minister stressed that the leaders of the Bolivian Labor Confederation (COB) made fun of the cabinet by making it wait until midnight just to turn down its proposal for a dialogue.

Finally, Peters said that all members of Congress may rest assured that the decree of the state of siege does not provide for the cessation of congressional activities.

Meanwhile, it has been reported that a commission of the Chamber of Deputies has gone to see the interior minister to ask him for a report on the status of arrested persons. Among the hunger strikers who were arrested is top workers leader Juan Lechin Oquendo and other members of the COB Executive Board.

[La Paz Radio Panamericana at 1550 GMT on 19 September carries the following report from the La Paz El Alto Airport: "We have received unofficial information from El Alto Air Base that six planes have taken off for various rural places, including Horquilla, San Joaquin, and Puerto Rico, apparently carrying union leaders of the COB and other sectors."]

Lechin Banished to Pando

PY191902 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Report from Government Palace by Cristina Corrales]

[Text] [Words indistinct] Radio Panamericana to report that Interior Minister Fernando Barthelemy has confirmed that the main leaders of the strike that was being staged in the country have been banished. He specifically said that Juan Lechin Oquendo is in Pando. He added that other top leaders of the movement headed by the Bolivian Labor Federation are said to be in the region of Puerto Rico and in Madidi, and others are said to be in the Orquidea area in Beni Department. Beni and Pando Departments reportedly are the places where the union leaders have been banished. Thus far, however, the minister has not given a complete list of the labor leaders being detained or of where they are. [passage indistinct]

Interior Minister Fernando Barthelemy also told the newsmen, answering a question from Radio Panamericana, that this morning there was in fact a clash near the [name indistinct] factory. He explained that the workers tried to stage a demonstration and that the government could not allow it because the state of siege and curfew are in force. When asked about the injured, he said that the official report gives only four injured policemen. He said that the police had the worst part of the clash, and that there is no official report on injured workers. He promised a list of detained and banished persons and a list of people detained in the clash in the next few hours.

When asked what would happen in Congress this afternoon, he declined to comment.

This has been a Radio Panamericana report from the Interior Ministry.

Police Chief Says Calm Prevails

PY200211 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0014 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] According to National Police Commander General Julio Vargas Soto, the country is in a state of complete calm despite the incidents that took place this morning in the (Lasahib) zone of La Paz that caused four casualties among the police forces and a few others among the workers. No major problems have been reported.

[Begin Vargas recording] Except for this morning's incident with the workers in (Lasahib) that caused four casualties among our unarmed police and where a motorcycle was set on fire, the rest of the country is completely calm. [end recording]

Regarding the casualties among the workers, Gen Vargas explained that they were caused by bullets and since the policemen were unarmed, he does not know where the bullets came from.

[Begin recording] We were told that there was a casualty among the workers, apparently from a bullet wound, but our policemen were unarmed so I do not know how the factory worker was injured. [end recording]

Afterward Gen Vargas said that no one was arrested during the demonstrations that took place in La Paz and he denied that any raids of houses occurred or that civilian agents participated in the breaking up of the hunger strike pickets because the police are capable of operating alone.

COB Goes Underground

PY200153 Paris AFP in Spanish 0014 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Excerpt] La Paz, 19 Sep (AFP) -- The executive board of the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB), which has gone underground, today urged all workers and the Bolivian people to continue with the national general strike in response to the state of siege that the government decreed during the past few hours. The union leaders are demanding the release of their top leader, Juan Lechin Oquendo, and other leaders who were detained by government agents when they were carrying out a hunger strike and banished to Amazon areas in the country's far north.

COB Elects Executive Committee

PY201239 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] The COB has established underground executive and strike committees. The election was held among leaders who have not been detained and who yesterday released a communique in which they denounced the events that took place yesterday and demanded the release of all detainees.

The names of the members of the underground COB Executive Committee are: Edgar Vazquez, Victor Morales, Jose Quiroga, and Eusebio Encina, as well as seven leaders whose names have not been revealed.

Peasant Federation Calls for Roadblocks

PY181607 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The Confederation of Bolivian Peasant Workers (CTCB) has decided to block roads throughout the nation to express their demand for a dialogue between the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] and the government of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement [MNR].

A document was sent to Radio Panamericana on this matter by the CTCB. Part of that document states: The weight of the new economic model, instead of falling upon those who have taken advantage of the crisis, such as speculators, tax evaders, those who handled the parallel dollar market, and other elements, falls upon the shoulders of the people. This is categorical evidence of the treacherous and antipopular nature of the MNR government, which brings greater dependency and absolute misery to our people, namely to the working class.

The CTCB document adds that as a result of this economic model, the situation of the people, particularly of the peasants, is maddening. For example, bus fares have been increased 700 percent, while our supplies have decreased 600 percent, a fact which directly benefits the intermediaries, transporters, and the oligarchy.

The document adds that all sectors are well aware that the CTCB has made all possible efforts to establish a dialogue with the government in order to discuss the new economic model. This request was finally rejected.

In view of this situation, the peasant leaders stated, the following decisions have been made:

1. Under these circumstances, the government must agree to hold a dialogue with the COB as an expression of the popular movement.

2. Should the government persist in this delaying and repressive attitude toward the workers, the CTCB calls for blocking the roads beginning at 0000 tomorrow, 19 September.

The document is signed by Victor Morales, Victor Miranda, and other peasant leaders.

400 Workers Released

PY200118 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] About 400 people have been released according to an official report. They are not union leaders but members of grassroots movements as acknowledged by the Interior Ministry, Congress, and the ruling party. They were participating in the voluntary hunger strike when they were arrested today and taken to El Alto District. The release began a few minutes ago. Apparently some of the people are not actually detained but confined through a government decision; however the rest of the workers will be released.

Ministry Calls Back Workers

PY191438 La Paz Radio Illimani in Spanish 1410 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Communique issued by the Press and Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Labor and Labor development on 19 September]

[Text] The Labor and Labor Development Ministry wishes to inform employees and workers at large that:

1. In view of the cessation of all pressures and threats that either directly or indirectly precluded the workers' access to their places of work, the constitutional government hereby supplies them with all the necessary guarantees to return to their normal duties and services;

2. According to the law, failure to appear for work will result in the position being declared vacant;

3. The workers are reminded that no payments will be made for days not worked.

La Paz, 19 September 1985

Signed: Press and Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Labor and Labor Development

ENTEL, YPFB Workers Return

PY200159 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0014 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] After President Victor Paz Estenssoro's administration established the state of siege most of the state institutions began to normalize their activities. Workers of National Telecommunications Enterprise [ENTEL], Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPFB], the Bolivian Development Corporation, and other state companies returned to work.

Private banks operated as usual but state banks were irregular. Therefore, according to several reports, all national activities are returning to normal.

Central Bank Activities Normalize

PY191950 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] The activities of the Bolivian Central Bank are returning to normal, and this morning its main branch office, the old building, was opened. The manager of that branch office, Armando Oporto, who cut short his vacation to return to work in the emergency caused by the present situation, made some comments:

[Begin recording] Activities are being resumed normally, maybe not 100 percent, but we are attending to the public, because we know perfectly well that paying salaries is necessary, and we are gradually making new payments to the public sector. Not 100 percent, but the situation will soon be normalized. [end recording]

Mr Oporto also said that the activities include the sending of remittances to the interior in order to meet the commitments of the Central Bank.

President Condemns Strikes

PY181519 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] President Victor Paz Estenssoro has said the strikes go against the national interests. The national general strike and the hunger strikes are measures opposed to national interests, Paz Estenssoro stated at the end of the political council meeting yesterday. He added that the government will not hold talks with the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] under pressure. Moreover, the hunger strike by mineworkers' housewives and union leaders is a serious form of pressure. These brief remarks to reporters were made yesterday by the president of the Republic at Government Palace.

Vice President Summons Congress

PY192256 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 2200 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] President Victor Paz Estenssoro has sent a message to Vice President Julio Garret Aillon, who is also president of the National Congress, which says the following:

In view of the state of upheaval that sought to oust the legal authorities by openly promoting disobedience of the laws and sponsoring subversion, and in view of the occupation of state installations and buildings and the interruption of the essential services necessary for the normal development of public and private activities, and the executive branch has been forced to adopt the extreme measure of declaring a state of seige throughout the nation. Through you I am requesting Congress to meet in a special session of the whole cabinet for the purposes established in Article 111 of our Constitution. On this occasion I am also sending my personal regards to you, Mr Vice President of the Republic and President of the National Congress.

As a result of this message, Vice President Julio Garret has summoned Congress for September 23 at 1700.

[Begin recording] [Garret] I have just received a message from the president saying that in compliance with the Constitution, he requests Congress to be summoned in order to allow the ministers to justify the government decision regarding Article No 111 of the Constitution. I would like to tell you that it is a prerogative for the executive branch to summon the National Congress, so my duty is to carry out this request. Congress will meet to discuss with the ministers the government's decision to establish the state of seige. This congressional session will take place on Monday at 1800. [time as heard] [end recording]

As you have heard, Congress will meet next Monday.

Defense Minister Criticizes Strike

PY172124 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Fernando Valle has bitterly criticized the general strike being conducted by the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB]. Talking to reporters, Valle stated that these coercive measures imposed by the COB represent at attack against the democratic regime.

[Begin Valle recording] The state is in a position to impose respect for the laws and provisions of the national Constitution in order to try to change the sectarian actions of a small union group. It is not difficult to understand that when elections take place within a democracy the people vote for a government program, because a political proposal that is made to the people in democratic elections is based precisely on a government program. Thus, all these measures that now make up the new economic policy have been included in the government program of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement [MNR]. Consequently, it is very necessary to think about this matter and then consider that any sectarian position that is adopted against the implementation of this new economic policy is undoubtedly an attack against the democratic government. [end recording]

The defense minister then stated that the COB is conspiring against the current democratic system.

[Begin recording] The strike is a coercive measure which violates constitutional provisions and specific norms of the penal code. The government will use the legal instruments that are in effect in the country, and we are going to implement the proposal we have made which, as I said before, is nothing more than the political proposal we presented during the elections. [end recording]

The defense minister then severely questioned the COB's political representativeness. He said that less than 5 percent of the elections vote went to the parties that support the COB.

Government Rejects Church Mediation

PY191456 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2356 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpt] La Paz, 18 Sep (EFE) -- The Bolivian Government today rejected the call of the Catholic Church to hold talks with the Bolivian Labor Federation, which has been staging a general strike for the last 15 days and a hunger strike for the last 2. A document was issued this afternoon following a 7-hour meeting between President Paz Estenssoro and his ministers. It stated: We shall not negotiate until labor and congressional (questioning of ministers in Congress) pressures are suspended.

Reports of Coup Prompted Siege

PY191632 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1625 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] La Paz, 19 Sep (TELAM) -- An official source today said that the Bolivian Government discovered a coup in the making as a result of the general and hunger strikes being staged by the workers. The secretary general of the Interior Ministry, Gonzalez Nogales, during a meeting with a committee of the Chamber of Deputies, said that the government discovered a coup in process but he did not give major details.

Gonzalez Nogales was visited today by a congressional committee headed by the vice president of the Chamber of Deputies, Guillermo Capobianco, who is investigating the whereabouts of thousands of union leaders and workers arrested early this morning.

Nogales also said that the government is going to give all the details of the thwarted coup in the next few hours. The government early this morning imposed a state of siege and a curfew that is in effect from 0000 to 0600.

'Text' of State of Siege Decree

PY191851 La Paz Radio Illimani in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Sep 85

["Text" of Decree 21079 issued by the Council of Ministers 19 September]

[Text] Whereas: The executive branch has the duty to comply with and to enforce the nation's Constitution and laws;

The latest economic measures dictated by the government, in accordance with constitutional legality, are precisely intended to save Bolivia from the scourge of hyperinflation, which had reached limits posing risks to the country's own existence;

Minority political groups installed in the unionist leadership were inciting an illegal strike and at the same time were trying to undermine the authority of the state by exerting arbitrary pressures and inciting the people to disregard measures adopted by the constituted power;

The government cannot tolerate the violent occupation of installations or buildings, or the suspension of services that are indispensable for normal activities, not only of an economic, but also of a general character;

The population must be protected from threats that undermine the juridical order of the nation;

Therefore, with the approval of the Council of Ministers, the executive branch decrees:

Single article. A state of siege is declared throughout the nation. The interior, immigration, and justice minister is charged with implementing and enforcing this decree.

Constitution Cited on Siege

PY191601 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Since a state of exception has been declared in this country, Radio Panamericana is pleased to let the citizenry know what is said in Chapter 4 of the Constitution now in force regarding the preservation of public order.

Article 111 of the Constitution reads: In the case of serious danger because of internal unrest or foreign war, the head of the executive branch may, with the assent of the Council of Ministers, declare a state of siege in the extension of the territory where it may be necessary. If Congress is in regular or special session when the Republic, or part of it, is under a state of siege, the continuation of that state will be subject to legislative authorization. It is implemented in the same way if the state of siege decree is dictated by the executive branch when the Chambers are in session. If the state of siege is not suspended before 90 days, it automatically expires at the end of this term, except in the case of civil or foreign war. Those who may have been detained shall be released, unless they have been put under the jurisdiction of the appropriate courts. The executive branch may not extend the state of siege beyond 90 days or declare another in the course of the same year, unless Congress assents to it. To this effect, special sessions will be called if this situation arises when the Chambers are in recess.

Article 112 says: The declaration of a state of siege produces the following effects:

1. The executive branch may increase the number of personnel in the Armed Forces and call up for service the reserves it considers necessary.

2. It may impose the advance collection of taxes and state incomes that are indispensable, and it may also negotiate and demand loans if the normal resources are insufficient. In the cases of forced loans, the executive branch will assign quotas, distributing them among the taxpayers according to their economic capacity.

3. The guarantees and rights safeguarded in this Constitution are not automatically and generally suspended through the sole declaration of a state of siege, but they can be so in the case of certain persons against whom well-founded accusations are made of plotting against public order, according to what is established in the following paragraphs.

4. The legal authorities may issue summonses or arrest orders against those accused, but they must be put at the disposal of the appropriate judge within 48 hours, together with the documents justifying the arrest. If the preservation of public order demands the removal of those accused, their banishment may be ordered to a departmental or provincial capital that must not be unhealthy. Expulsion from the country for political reasons is prohibited, but a person who is banished, persecuted, or arrested for such reasons and who asks for a passport to go abroad cannot be refused this for any reason whatever, and the authorities must grant him the necessary guarantees to this end. Those who carry out orders violating these guarantees may be prosecuted at any time after the state of siege has expired for having violated constitutional guarantees, and they will not receive the benefit of having obeyed superior orders.

Article 113 of the Constitution reads as follows: The government will render an account to the next Congress of the reasons which led to the declaration of the state of siege and of the use it may have made of the powers conferred upon it in this chapter, reporting on the results of the trials it has ordered, and suggesting the necessary measures to meet the obligations it may have contracted through direct loans and advance tax collections.

Article 114 says: Congress will dedicate its first sessions to scrutinizing the account referred to in the preceding article, voicing its approval or declaring the responsibility of the executive branch. In this connection, the chambers may take the investigations they deem necessary and ask the executive branch to explain and justify all its actions related to the state of siege, even though these actions may not have been mentioned in the rendering of account.

Article 115, the last of Chapter 4, refers to the preservation of public order. It says: Neither Congress nor any association or meeting of the people can confer upon the executive branch any extraordinary power or the whole of public power, or grant it any supremacy by which the life, honor, and wealth of the citizens are put at the mercy of the government or any individual. The personal inviolability and dignity established in this Constitution for the national representatives are not suspended during the state of siege.

We have now read Chapter 4 of the Constitution, Articles 111 through 115, which refer to the preservation of public order, because we believe that the state of exception decreed by the executive branch means a state of siege.

La Paz Prefect Releases Edict

PY191517 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1445 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Edict No A-002-85 issued by La Paz Departmental Government House on 19 September]

[Text] Angel Gomez Garcia, prefect of La Paz Department, taking into consideration that the government has ordered a state of siege throughout the nation and that it is the duty of the departmental prefecture to regulate public order, resolves:

1. An edict is hereby approved to regulate the activities of temporary residents and inhabitants of La Paz Department in accordance with Article 112 of the Constitution.

2. As of today, the following activities are strictly prohibited: 1) carrying arms; 2) holding meetings and demonstrations; 3) walking in groups of more than three people from 0000 until 0600; 4) bars, (?quintas), restaurants, dance halls, and amusement places staying open past 0000; 5) people who want to hold social activities must obtain a police permit; 6) people who want to travel to other parts of the country and to the provinces of the department must obtain a safe-conduct from the police.

3. The Public Security National Guard, the Departmental Police Command, the Traffic Control Police Department, the provincial deputy prefects, and county intendants as well as the organizations in charge of preserving public order must strictly comply with this edict. Those who violate these regulations will be punished according to the Constitution and the penal code.

Police Communique on Restrictions

PY200145 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] The Bolivian police have released a communique containing measures that the population must follow so as not to violate the measures that have been made public and which have been implemented by the government during the past few hours. While the state of siege and the edict of La Paz Prefecture are in force the police have set up special offices to deal with the instructions that the population will have to follow. Due to the importance of these instructions, we will read the communique that has been released by the Bolivian police. This is the text:

Departmental Police Headquarters informs the population that in accordance with the enforcement of the state of siege that has been ordered by the government of the edict released by La Paz Prefecture, the following instructions must be followed:

A. Anyone who wishes to travel to the interior of the country and the provinces of the department must obtain the appropriate pass. There will be no charge for this pass and it will be issued upon the presentation of a personal identity card or any other document that proves the identity of the person requesting the pass. The following offices will issue such passes: police headquarters located on Sucre Street; traffic police headquarters located on Marshal Santa Cruz Avenue; the bus terminal located at Antofagasta Park; and criminology headquarters located in El Alto district of La Paz.

B. As of today no vehicle will be allowed to circulate between 0000 and 0600. Emergency vehicles that have the appropriate authorization are exempt from this measure.

C. Interdepartmental and interprovincial transport services will follow their normal schedules, which have already been established; moreover, permission trips must be requested at the Departmental Traffic Directorate, and a list of the passengers with the numbers of their identity cards must be submitted before authorization will be granted.

D. During the hours of free circulation no organization, association, or group of persons will be allowed to interrupt the normal flow of traffic or pedestrians. The traffic directorate will guarantee the free movement of traffic and pedestrians.

AIR FORCE RECEIVES T-33 PLANES FROM FRANCE

PY181755 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 31 Aug 85 p 1

[Excerpt] The Bolivian Air Force yesterday received the first shipment of 6 T-33 fighter planes of an order of 18 such planes from France. The reception of the new planes took place during the commemoration of the 53d anniversary of the 31st Air Fighters Group (GAC) headquartered in El Alto, La Paz. Minister of Aeronautics General Antonio Tovar Pierola, Air Force Commander in Chief General Villa Urioste, Navy Commander in Chief Rear Admiral Antonio Ona Costa, and 31st Air Fighters Group Commander Lieutenant Colonel Jose Perez Reyes Ortiz attended the ceremony. Chaco War veterans of the air group also attended the ceremony and received medals.

The Air Force commander in chief expressed satisfaction over the reception of the six first T-33 fighter planes purchased in France and said that they will contribute to "the operational development of the Air Force and constitute an evidence that the Air Force, like the other branches of the Armed Forces, is fully committed to its specific duties to effectively help the country's integration and development and especially to guarantee the people's desires for a strong democratic process."

SARNEY SAYS NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES

PY200047 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] This morning at Planalto Palace, President Jose Sarney installed the nuclear evaluation commission, which is made up of scientists and representatives of government agencies associated with the nuclear energy program. The commission will review the program and will submit recommendations for its reformulation to the president.

Whatever the changes introduced into the program at the commission's suggestion, the president made it clear that nuclear energy will be used exclusively for peaceful purposes.

[Begin Sarney recording] I reiterate our country's unyielding commitment to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. We want to apply this energy to the health and industrial sectors. Under the current socioeconomic circumstances, [words indistinct] the national community as a whole must engage in this debate so that we may democratically decide what to do with the nuclear energy. [end recording]

(Oscar Salas), A physicist and Sao Paulo University professor, in his capacity as alternate president of the commission, was installed today replacing Jose Israel Vargas, the commission's president, who is abroad.

The commission has 180 days to submit a report to President Jose Sarney.

JUSTICE MINISTER LYRA RETURNS FROM FRG

PY190238 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Justice Minister Fernando Lyra returned to Brasilia today, ending a 13-day visit to the FRG. During his stay in Bonn, Lyra met with FRG officials and with Social Democratic leader Willy Brandt. The minister was invited by the Social Democratic Party's Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

PT, METALWORKERS RECEIVED FOREIGN AID

PY140037 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Sep 85 p 3

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- A group of PFL [Liberal Front Party] congressmen that recently returned from the FRG yesterday reported to President Jose Sarney at the Planalto Palace that Brazilian labor unions, especially those connected with the PT [Workers' Party], have in the past 10 years received DM 2 billion (5 trillion cruzeiros) for trade union activities aimed at developing democracy in Brazil. This money has been distributed mainly through the church.

The congressmen who traveled to the FRG told the president that they were received in Bonn by the secretary of the Economic Cooperation Ministry, who revealed that most of the Brazilian delegation were surprised at this revelation and told the secretary that "the PT is a sectarian, radical party which has not contributed to the development of democracy in Brazil."

In the FRG, foundations connected with the Economic Cooperation Ministry support political parties. The Friedrich Naumann Foundation, which supports the German Liberal Party, invited the members of the PFL to make the trip. When the secretary told them of the distribution of funds to labor unions abroad, especially through the church, the Brazilians asked for concrete examples. The case of Brazil and the PT was one of the examples given by the secretary.

The members of the PFL delegation then asked that Economic Cooperation Minister, Dr Warnke, be called in. The minister came to the meeting and confirmed everything, including the case of Brazil. The Brazilians then suggested that the money be distributed "by the government that is restoring a fully democratic and pluralist regime in Brazil." After listening to the report, President Sarney said that he would investigate the amount of money that has been sent from Bonn and distributed by the chruch.

FETIM, FRG Supported Strike

PY200133 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 Sep 85 p 2

[Text] Jair Meneguelli, president of the Sole Central Organization of Workers (CUT), yesterday admitted that the metalworkers of Sao Caetano do Sul, Sao Bernardo do Campo, and Diadema received foreign financial support during the 54-day strike they staged in April and May. Meneguelli reported that the International Metal Workers Federation (FITIM), which is headquartered in Switzerland, sent the equivalent of 20 million cruzeiros to the Welfare and Cultural Association of Sao Bernardo do Campo and Diadema (the workers' source of funds during the strike). The money was used to buy food for the strikers. He added that the FRG national metalworkers union, IG Metall, sent 3,000 marks (7.5 million cruzeiros) to the Factory Workers Commission of the Sao Caetano do Sul General Motors plant, and that this money was also used to buy food.

According to the CUT leader, those were the only foreign sources that provided financial assistance. "We received their aid when the working class was fighting a long battle. We regard their actions as expressions of solidarity," Meneguelli said. He pointed out that "there is nothing wrong" with the international cooperation between labor organizations. "The working class is international. We received the aid when we needed it. Now we are sending food and medicines, which are provided by the Brazilian workers, to the Nicaraguan workers," the labor leader added.

Meneguelli said that the CUT does not receive financial support from foreign countries.

AMBASSADOR PLAYS DOWN SPANISH V.P'S STATEMENTS

PY171713 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0220 GMT 14 Sept 85

[Text] Santiago, 13 Sep (EFE) -- Spanish Ambassador to Santiago Miguel Solano Aza today gave no importance to the incident caused by alleged statements regarding Chile by Spanish Vice President Alfonso Guerra.

The ambassador told EFE he only knew what Guerra had said through the versions published by the local media based on international press agency reports. Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle responded to the reports by stating that Guerra was badly informed.

According to the press reports, Guerra condemned the Chilean military regime on the 12th anniversary of Salvador Allende's assassination. According to what was published in the local media, Guerra added that the socialist Salvador Allende will always remain in the peoples' memory as an example of honesty and freedom.

The Chilean foreign minister said that what the Spanish vice president said about the Popular Unity government and about the way in which Salvador Allende died shows that he is badly informed.

In pointing out that he had only learned about Alfonso Guerra's statements through the media, Ambassador Solano said that he could not make any comments on something he does not know about. Moreover, he added, Foreign Minister Del Valle has made statements that have closed the incident. The ambassador, answering journalists, also said that even if Guerra had really made these statements they do not represent interference of the Spanish Government in Chilean affairs, since, according to the Vienna diplomatic accord, only the head of state, the president of the government, and the foreign relations minister represent the opinion of a state.

When he was asked about the fact that he was allegedly responsible for Vice President Guerra's misinformation on how Salvador Allende died, Solano recalled that he was not ambassador to Chile in 1973.

SEGUEL ATTACKED BY PROGOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATORS

PY190358 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1803 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Santiago, 18 Sep (EFE) -- Some serious incidents took place in front of the Santiago cathedral when groups of progovernment demonstrators attacked labor union leader Rodolfo Seguel. Seguel was insulted by groups of youth carrying progovernment signs as he and other political and labor union leaders were leaving the cathedral after the Te Deum service offered by the Catholic Church on national independence day. After the shouts, some youth threw horse manure at Seguel while others tried to attack him. At first the Carabineros did nothing as some of the demonstrators shouted: "Burn the church."

Early in the morning the Carabineros had cordoned off a 4-block area around the cathedral to only allow those individuals authorized by the police to enter.

Former foreign Minister Gabriel Valdes, president of the Christian Democratic Party, was also rudely insulted.

When Seguel tried to leave through the Plaza de Armas he had to be protected by other opposition leaders from a group of youths that arrived after being authorized by the Carabineros. The Carabineros only helped Seguel after several minutes.

Msgr Alfonso Baeza, vicar for the labor pastorate of the Catholic Church, afterward said that it is incredible that such actions could have been directed at Cardinal Fresno's guests in front of the cathedral. He also expressed his surprise at the Carabineros for not having acted quickly enough to protect the union leaders.

The police even arranged for a group of demonstrators to shout: "Burn down the church" in front of the solidarity vicariate located next to the cathedral.

Seguel was forced to return to the cathedral but later left under heavy police protection.

POWER PYLONS BLOWN UP; FOUR PEOPLE INJURED

PY191542 Paris AFP in Spanish 1451 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Rancagua, 19 Sep (AFP) -- The police today reported that four people were injured in a bomb attack that knocked down two power pylons in this city. At the same time, electricity was cut for 1 hour for a large sector of this region.

No subversive group opposed to the military regime of General Augusto Pinochet has claimed responsibility for the attack, which coincided with the 175th anniversary of Chilean independence.

ECONOMY MINISTER DEDICATES NEW POWER PLANT

PY131741 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Sep 85

[Report by Rosa Sanchez]

[Excerpt] Economy Minister Juan Carlos Delano officially made operational the Colgun-Machicura Electricity Complex in the 7th region. This new electricity plant is the largest and most important engineering project in our country.

The dedication ceremony was also attended by General Hernando Hormazabal, executive vice president of the Production Development Corporation [CORFO], the French and FRG ambassadors, Regional Mayor Colonel Patricio Varela Saldivar, and other high-ranking officials of the Maule River Base.

In a speech made on this occasion the economy minister pointed out that it took 5 years of hard work to build this gigantic engineering work that represents one third of the interconnected electricity system in Chile. These two plants, located in the 7th region 35 km northeast of the city of Linares, form part of the Maule River hydroelectric projects and now join the broad electricity supply system currently operating in the country. These plants have an overall installed capacity of 490,000 kilowatts and an average annual generating capacity of 3 billion kilowatts per hour. This project required an investment of $1.3 million.

40 PIP OFFICERS RELIEVED, RETIRED IN CLEANUP

PY192116 Paris AFP in Spanish 1642 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Lima, 19 Sep (AFP) -- The Peruvian Government today relieved 40 officers of the Peruvian Investigative Police (detectives corps) in the third purge carried out in the reorganization of the police forces. These officers have been retired.

To date, 303 officers have been retired since the national cleanup campaign began on 9 August, when a law authorizing police reorganization was promulgated. The resolution of the Interior Ministry officially published today states that there are 17 lieutenant colonels and 23 majors among the 40 retired officers.

In the purges carried out on 19 August and 9 September, 37 generals were relieved from the Civil Guard (uniformed police) and 126 generals and colonels from the detective corps.

The government appointed a commission, presided over by Interior Minister Abel Salinas, to carry out the police reorganization which will end in the first half of November. According to sources close to this commission, by the end of the reorganization, which aims to end the cases of corruption and lack of discipline, the number of retired police officers may reach 3,000.

TERRORISTS UNLEASH ATTACKS IN AYACUCHO, CHIMBOTE

NC200838 Paris AFP in English 0802 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Lima, Sept 20 (AFP) -- Bomb blasts wrecked two electricity generating stations at Ayachucho, southeastern Peru, during the night, partly blacking out the city, the authorities reported today. No casualties were reported.

Ayacucho, 575 km southeast of Lima, is the center of operations of Peru's Maoist guerrilla movement, Shining Path.

After the explosions, security forces cordoned off the hotel in central Ayacucho, housing members of a senatorial committee investigating an alleged Army massacre of civilians in the military's struggle against the insurgents. The committee, headed by member of parliament Javier Valle Riestra, is inquiring into the recent killings of more than 60 peasants at Accomarca, in the Ayacucho region. Peru's president, Alan Garcia Perez, has ordered a rapid report on the incident.

In Lima, the three ministers overseeing the Armed Forces attended a closed session of the Senate during the night on the Accomarca massacre. They are General Jorge Flores Torres, war minister; Vice-Admiral Julio Pacheco Concha, navy minister; and Air Force General Jose Guerra Lorenzetti, air minister.

The chief of staff of the Armed Forces, Air Force General Cesar Enrico Praeli, resigned last weekend at Mr Garcia's request after the military admitted that it was responsible for the summary executions of seven people in the Ayacucho region last month.

Oil Pipeline Damaged

PY181801 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] At noon today, the North Peruvian pipeline was attacked by terrorists at km 675, 3 km from the [word indistinct] of Corculla, where the pipeline goes down to the Sechura desert.

The attackers made holes in the upper part of the pipeline, but there was no oil leakage. As a consequence, the pumping operations between Bayovar and Station No 5 were suspended. However, the (Gandoa) branches are still operating and the operations in the jungle have not been interrupted.

A Petroperu spokesman stressed that while the damaged pipeline is being repaired, the oil supply to the Lima refinery will be normal.

Police Post Blown Up

PY191619 Paris AFP in Spanish 1446 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Lima, 19 Sep (AFP) -- The police reported here today that a group of terrorists last night unleashed a wave of attacks in Chimbote, 412 km north of Lima. The terrorists blew up a police post, several houses, and power pylons, and left a large part of the population without water.

The police reported that the largest attack in Chimbote was carried out against a civil guard post, where a dynamite charge blew out doors and windows.

The synchronized attacks, the first in this area, did not cause any casualties. The attacks involved three explosions that destroyed several power pylons, leaving four slum neighborhoods in darkness where several poorly built houses also were destroyed.

Another explosion destroyed the power for the running water supply in a poor neighborhood, thus affecting the supply of water to the city. Another bomb caused damage to a sports center.

This region, which was struck by a tremor recently, was again hit by two low intensity tremors last night.

GOVERNMENT PUTS CEILING ON CRUDE OIL PAYMENTS

PY191627 Paris AFP in Spanish 0333 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Lima, 18 Sep (AFP) -- It was officially announced here today that the Peruvian Government has drastically reduced the prices it will pay for the crude produced by three foreign companies, and that this will be the only compensation the companies will receive for the crude they produce. The contracts with these companies had been rescinded while new terms were being negotiated.

The Energy and Mines Ministry has fixed the price of a barrel of oil at $5.43 to paid to Belco Petroleum Company, $4.51 to Occidental Petroleum Corporation, and $7.26 to the Oxy-Bridas Consortium. None of the three companies agreed to comment on the government decision.

Previously, the foreign contractors received 50 percent of the crude they produced at an international price of about $26 per barrel. On 30 August, the government canceled their contracts for failing to invest over $655 million in new prospecting operations.

STATE PETROLEUM FIRM INCREASES OIL PRODUCT PRICES

PA192245 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2055 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Caracas, 19 Sep (EFE) -- The state-owned Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc (PDVSA) announced today that prices on its oil export products have been increased. PDVSA pointed out that given the current favorable situation for the oil products in international markets, the prices of the products were increased as follows:

Product	Previous price	New Price
Propane	210.00	220.00
Butane	250.00	260.00
Isobutylene	270.00	280.00
Heating fuel	31.92	32.55
Aviation fuel	32.55	33.39
Desulfurized Gasoil	28.98	30.24
Undesulfurized Gasoil	26.67	28.35
Heavy fuel, low sulfur (0.31)	27.20	29.20
Heavy fuel, low sulfur (1.0)	24.26	25.01
Heavy fuel, high sulfur (2.21)	22.14	22.49
Heavy fuel, high sulfur (2.81)	21.81	22.01

PDVSA said that the exports of articles whose prices have been raised currently averages 500,000 barrels per day. The increase approved by PDVSA will be effective on 20 September.

LUSINCHI SENDS ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE TO OPEC

PA151005 Paris AFP in Spanish 0843 GMT 14 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Caracas, 13 Sep (AFP) -- Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi sent a message today to the kings and heads of state in the 13 OPEC member countries on the group's 25th anniversary, urging them to act with a "clear awareness."

"There prevails evident risks, and if we do not act with a clear awareness of the serious dangers involved during the current situation, we might undermine the position we have achieved with such great efforts," the presidential message states. Venezuela is the largest OPEC Latin American member. Ecuador is the other regional member.

Lusinchi stressed that OPEC was able to maintain oil prices during the first decade of its existence despite the adverse circumstances in the market; at the beginning of its second decade, OPEC assumed the "sovereign and autonomous establishment of our oil prices." The last part of Lusinchi's message reiterates Venezuela's willingness "to continue struggling for OPEC's unity, an appropriate instrument for the defense of our common interests."

CONSALVI NOTES 'CONSIDERABLE' CONTADORA PROGRESS

PA171921 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2237 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Caracas, 16 Sep (DPA) -- "Considerable progress was achieved in the meeting of Contadora Group foreign ministers," Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi stated here today, adding that "one of the most important aspects was establishing a 45-day term so that after 7 October the Central American peace document can be signed.

Regarding the Central American situation in general, Consalvi said there is consensus on 90 of the 100 points of the document and "there is the will and the best expression of that will which is the conviction expressed in a joint communique by the nine foreign ministers."

"There are also tensions and mistrust in the region to such an extent that it is necessary to overcome them," he added. "The Contadora foreign ministers and those of the support group who were in Cartagena contacted the foreign ministers of Honduras and Nicaragua and expressed a willingness to make every effort within our reach, even visiting the countries, to end the tensions and to find more specific formulas," he added. "The first result is that the tensions have diminished," he said responding to another question.

CONSALVI PRAISES RESULT OF ANDEAN MEETING

PA191541 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0130 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Caracas, 16 Sep (DPA) -- Venezuela Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi said in Caracas today that the foreign, economy, and integration ministers of the Andean Group who recently met in Cartagena, Colombia "laid the groundwork for the reorientation and updating of the integration process of the Andean Pact." After returning from Cartagena, Consalvi told the local press that "the final document explains the effort that was made in that meeting." As a result of that meeting, "the process has regained a dynamism that will take us to mid-December, when we will meet again at a suitable location to review and approve the work that the economy, industry, and integration ministers who attended the Cartagena meeting have agreed to carry out."

"There is no doubt that as a result of the foundation agreed upon in Cartagena, the process will undergo an important reactivation that should begin with bilateral trade and general economic exchange that at one time reached $1.3 billion, but that unfortunately began to drop due to various contradictions and indecisions," he said. He added that "we must try to make the integration process a reality by revising what must be revised and by giving more initiative to what the final document (of the Cartagena meeting) calls 'social sectors' so that the process will not be an isolated action or a decision of the governments. In this way, it will truly be a process of participation of both the governments and private enterprise because, after all, private businessmen are the most direct agents of integration, just like the social, labor, and political sectors."

"Therefore, it was decided that it would be appropriate that establishing the Andean Parliament as an organ of the Cartagena Agreement would be one of the decisions probably adopted in December." "With such a decision, the integration process will have all the possible national support in each of the five member countries," he stressed.

BRIEFS

1984 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE -- The Central Bank of Venezuela reported that the unemployment rate at the end of 1984 was 12.4 percent. The bank report states that the number of unemployed is over 760,000 workers, and that the country's estimated number of workers is 5.716 million. [Summary] [Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 17 Sep 85 p D-1 PA]

GROSS PRODUCTION REPORT -- The Central Bank of Venezuela reported in its annual report that the nation's gross production dropped 1.1 percent in 1984. The report also states that the construction industry dropped 36.4 percent; public investment 47 percent; while other industrial sectors increased 5.3 percent. [Summary] [Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 17 Sep 85 p D-1 PA]

EARTHQUAKE KILLS ESTIMATED 3,000; RESCUES UNDER WAY

U.S. Diplomats Reportedly Killed

PA191826 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1752 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Bogota, 19 Sep (DPA) -- An estimated 160 dead is the first partial toll of victims from the earthquake that shook the Pacific coast of Guerrero State and Mexico City at 0712 today, a correspondent of the Colombian CARACOL Radio Network reported from Los Angeles. Juan Torres, a correspondent of the Colombian radio station, reported that the Mexican state-owned television Channel 13, which is broadcasting live images of what is occurring in Mexico, issued a partial list of dead and wounded shortly before 1100. The correspondent read an emergency communique issued by the Mexican Government on the earthquake whose epicenter, according to the official reports, was located 340 km west of the port of Acapulco and the Pacific coasts of Guerrero State. "Most of the tall buildings in the center of the capital have been damaged by the earthquake," said Torres. He added that well-known sites in the capital such as the Paseo de la Reforma, where there are many buildings and hotels, "have been seriously affected."

At the last minute it has been learned that several U.S. diplomats were killed and others were wounded inside the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City although the report has not been fully confirmed. Fourteen old buildings in the center of Mexico City collapsed, the CARACOL correspondent in Los Angeles reported.

Witnesses, President Comment

PA192034 [Editorial Report] Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish, intercepted in progress at 1751 GMT on 19 September, broadcasts reports on the earthquake that shook Mexico at 1320 GMT. Coverage has included on-the-scene reports of streets and buildings damaged by the earthquake and comments by public officials on estimated damage to utilities and on arrangements for providing medical care to the injured. Announcements are broadcast asking people to stay home to leave the streets clear for rescue workers and vehicles. "Eyewitness" interviews with people describing what they were doing during and immediately after the earthquake are also broadcast. The announcers periodically read messages to individuals regarding the safety and well-being of their relatives.

At 1820 GMT the announcer reports that all long distance national and international services are interrupted "so it is important that we not use the few available lines because they are needed for emergency services."

At 1841 GMT, the announcer reports that "early this morning the president of the republic met in the Los Pinos residence with the government and defense secretaries and the head of the Federal District Department. He then boarded a helicopter to fly over the affected areas." Reporter Francisco de la Sota reports that "the president as very dismayed over the tragedy, and he said that this time priorities are rescuing the victims and aiding the homeless." The reporter adds that the president has been touring several neighborhoods to inspect the damage to public buildings and private residences. He reports that the president visited the area where the Chamber of Deputies building is located, adding that the building was damaged. The reporter states that a great number of members of the Army, Navy, Red Cross, and other rescue organizations are helping to rescue people from collapsed buildings. The reporter says that the president has gone to his office at the Government Palace.

At 1850 GMT the station continues showing aerial footage of affected areas and the efforts to remove people trapped in buildings. At 1945 GMT, the announcer says that Miguel de la Madrid was interviewed during his tour of the affected areas this morning. Asked about the work of the Mexican Army in the rescue operations, the president says that since this is a problem in Mexico City, the coordination of the rescue program is under the responsibility of the head of the Federal District but the entire government apparatus is cooperating with the Federal District Government, and "The Mexican Army is logistically helping us and is in a state of alert, since it has specialized training for every kind of disaster." The president adds: "Thus far, the direct intervention of the Army has not been necessary, but it is in a state of alert for any support that we might require from our Armed Forces."

At 1946 GMT, the station carries an interview with the director of the Seismology Institute who says that the tremor was felt in an extensive area of Mexico and registered "7.5 on the richter scale, but that when we compile all the information this figure might be higher." The station continues to broadcast shots of the areas affected by the earthquake, people removing rubble and rescuing victims, while messages are read from people telling relatives they are safe.

Airports Continue Operations

PA200117 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 2310 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] ASA [Airports and Auxiliary Services] Director Humberto Lugo Gil informs that:

1. Mexico City International Airport is operating normally. It was closed for 30 minutes because of problems with communications and to inspect the runways. The Mexico City International Airport suffered no serious damage.

2. Reports have been received from the airports in Morelia, Uruapan, Acapulco, (Cihuatanejo), Oaxaca, Veracruz, and Poza Rica, and at all these airports, services continue uninterrupted.

3. ASA's rescue, fire prevention, and ambulance services are offering their services in Mexico City.

Buildings Damaged; Acapulco Report

PA200357 [Editorial Report] Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish at 2030 GMT on 19 September broadcasts reports on the damages caused by the earthquake that shook Mexico City early this morning. Coverage includes on-the-scene reports of the damaged buildings. Most of the coverage concerns the fire at the Regis Hotel and the fact that it has not been controlled. At 2053 GMT, Francisco de la Sota interviews General Mota Sanchez, chief of the Protection and Highway Secretariat, on Pino Suarez Street, Mexico City. Mota Sanchez mentions that 40 important buildings and 60 to 80 smaller buildings have been destroyed. Mota Sanchez was asked if he knew the number of people who were in those buildings; he said: "No we do not have that information, however, we do know that many people trapped in the rubble are alive. Therefore, our first priority is to work to get them out. We must also organize shelters for those who have lost their homes."

At 2110 GMT the announcer says that the areas most affected by the earthquake have been: Tlaltelolco, Colonia Roma, Colonia de Los Doctores, and the area near LA PRENSA newspaper building. The station reads messages from people telling their relatives that they are safe, and these messages are interspersed with shots of the affected areas.

At 0030 GMT on 20 September, the announcer says that a report from Acapulco had been received. He continues to say that one death, a little girl, was reported, and that the area suffered only slight damage. This morning the road into Acapulco was blocked, but it has now been cleared. However, the authorities recommend caution when using the road.

Messages Read on TV

PA200551 [Editorial Report] Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish at 0030 GMT on 20 September broadcasts special reports of the aftermath of the earthquake that occurred earlier in the day. At 0032 GMT, the station announcers continue to alternate in reading messages submitted by members of the public to reassure or provide information to their relatives. At 0040 GMT, the announcer receives a report by telephone, from Emilio Carrillo Gamboa, director general of telephones, on the status of telephone services nationwide.

After more messages, either alternating with, or superimposed on film coverage of scenes of destruction in Mexico City, at 0052 GMT it is announced that President De la Madrid would "address the nation" at 1900 (0100 GMT). However, the address did not materialize and at 0145 GMT the announcer reads a report on the status of telecommunications and transportation services. This is followed by more messages and requests for donations of urgently needed supplies.

A 1-hour musical concert is announced at 0300 GMT, but is abruptly interrupted at 0308 GMT for a 15-minute news conference, broadcast in progress, which begins with an unidentified official reading a statement on measures being taken by the government to alleviate the situation and restore services. He is followed immediately at 0315 GMT by Mexican Defense Secretary General Juan Arevalo, who reports on the extent of the damage as determined so far and the military's part in rescue efforts and the reestablishment of order. The live relay ends at 0323 GMT and is followed by programming unrelated to the earthquake.

Communications, Transportation Improve

PA200252 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0145 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Communications between Mexico City and the rest of the country, and with the rest of the world, was interrupted today due to a short circuit that was caused by the earthquake this morning, affecting the central telecommunications tower electric system in Mexico City. You must recall that we showed you how the top of the telecommunications tower and the batteries which provide energy during an emergency were burning. Emergency batteries were immediately transferred to the telecommunications tower from the telecommunications center in Istapalapa, and the damages are being repaired. The service will be restored before midnight.

The National Telegraph Service is working at 40 percent capacity for all the national services. All 200 communications stations under the Morelos I satellite are working, relaying the signal throughout the national territory and even beyond our borders. We have received reports that Imevision's signal has been retrieved from the Morelos I satellite from New York to Panama. All the country's highways are working normally, except for the sector between Guadalajara and Ciudad Guzman, which sustained five serious cracks that prevent any traffic. The road between Acapulco and Sihuatanejo has also been closed down as a precautionary measure. It is expected that traffic will be normalized during the night.

One-hundred and thirty-five patrol cars of the Federal Highway Police and 280 policemen are guarding the access roads to the capital. The country's airports are working normally; there were some delays in flights to and from Mexico City. In regard to railroad transportation, traffic to and from Mexico City was interrupted for 4 hours. Trains are now operating normally.

EXCELSIOR Estimates 3,000 Dead

PA200254 Paris AFP in Spanish 0242 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Havana, 19 Sep (AFP) -- According to a dispatch from the Mexican daily EXCELSIOR received here tonight, an "initial count" of over 3,000 dead is the result of the earthquake in Mexico. A telex line is being kept open between the Mexican newspaper and the Conventions Palace in Havana where a regional newsmen's convention is being held.

Officials on Rescue, Rehabilitation

PA200426 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0308 GMT 20 Sep 85

[News Conference with unidentified government official and National Defense Secretary General Juan Arevalo; broadcast in progress -- live]

[Text] [Unidentified official] ...of the country. The evaluation of plans and rehabilitation programs, immediate attention to the affected population, as I said, rescue the trapped people who are injured through mechanisms which will later be explained by the chief of the Federal District Department, the preparation of emergency centers, food supplies, dormitories and priority care of minors and old people. The evaluation and rehabilitation of vital communications lines, such as telephone, and electricity lines, roads, will be explained by the communications secretary. Important public security actions include emergency measures in the affected area, and measures to ensure land transportation movement. The definition of criteria and actions to keep the population duly informed in a objective manner, security measures, and notification of the measures undertaken by the federal government will be undertaken. Prevention and evaluation of damage, mobilization of the people in the areas and buildings of high risk will be outlined. Measures to rehabilitate and operate in federal government buildings, evaluation of damage by secretariates and departments of the federal government, emergency actions in installations vital for national security and communications will be undertaken.

Also outlined will be criteria defined by the government to receive aid from private organizations, as well as from governments of other countries, establishing a list of offers from national organizations and institutions and a list of offers from foreign organizations and institutions. Federal offices for centralizing national and foreign assistance will be organized.

For the federal government to carry out all of the abovementioned measures, the president of the republic has established the following coordination commissions: the National Commission headed by the Government Secretariat and with the participation of the federal government offices that are necessary to evaluate the damage at the national level and carry out the corrective and rehabilitation measures, as required; the Metropolitan Commission headed by the chief of the Department of the Federal District, and acting as technical secretary will be the under secretary of government, who will evaluate and coordinate rescue and rehabilitation actions in Mexico City. Both commissions have been carrying out their functions as of this morning, coordinated with the participation of all federal government offices and local authorities.

It is only fair to underscore that all this is being done with the valuable help given by private and volunteer organizations that have, once again, demonstrated their solidarity in face of the disaster we are experiencing.

In conclusion, we are grateful for the indispensable and total solidarity and participation of the people of Mexico, of all ages and sex, who continue to carry out their courageous and decisive work on all fronts and through the situation that this unfortunate disaster has caused.

Regarding the national situation, the intensity of this geological phenomenon caused damage, and in some cases destruction, to the main communications and information systems throughout the country. In the beginning this made evaluation of human, economic, and social losses caused by this phenomenon difficult. Despite the communications problem, an overall view of the national situation was gradually made possible with help of various information systems of federal government offices. Noteworthy is the help given by the National Defense Secretariat. This overall view of the national situation allows us to state that, despite the magnitude of the earthquake, the vital and strategic systems and installations for the functioning and safety of the nation, have experienced no major damage.

Regarding the current situation of these systems, installations, and services, the pertinent authorities will report on their situation within the framework of the national rescue commission appointed by the president of the republic. However, we must regret the damage to the headquarters of several secretariats and other government offices. Among these we must mention the Navy Secretariat, Communications and Transport Secretariat, Commerce and Industrial Development Secretariat, Labor and Social Welfare Secretariat, Agrarian Reform Secretariat, Federal District Attorney General's Office, and to a smaller extent, damages to the Finance Secretariat, Planning and Budget Secretariat, Health Secretariat, and Government Secretariat. The results of the evaluation of damage to Mexico City will be provided, as I have already said, by the head of the Federal District Department who is also heading the rescue work. These are the federal agencies that have suffered the greatest damage, according to the information we have available. We also report some damages in the States of Colima, Guerrero, Jalisco, and Michoacan.

All these have received and will continue to receive the federal government's decided and unrestricted support, joined by brotherhood and solidarity, which have been stated at all times to the Mexican people during this kind of disaster. A special mention and thanks has been sent by President Miguel de la Madrid to the different communications media, which have again carried out dignified, exemplary, patriotic, and efficient information efforts for the sake of all the Mexican people's unity, solidarity, and support.

Mr Defense Secretary, would you be so kind to speak?

[General Arevalo Gardoqui] With pleasure. In regard to the earthquake that took place today at 0720, the national defense secretariat immediately put into action plan DN-3, a document authorized by the president of the republic. This document is ready 365 days a year, so we may be prepared to face any physical or natural situation that might occur throughout our national territory. Fortunately, the Mexican Army's members were at their installations and I immediately transferred them so they began moving the most affected areas, in coordination with the city's mayor.

When the personnel arrived at the Constitutional Square, the main measures had been adopted to tackle the problem.

Six generals, 84 commanders, 257 officers, 3,500 troop members, 25 ambulances, and 600 motorcycles were waiting. The motorcycles were used to tour the city and prepare valuable information that includes the farthest corners in the valley of Mexico; 500 DINA [National Diesel] trucks were used to transfer personnel and made available to civilian authorities to be used as necessary. We also made available 150 beds in the central military hospital.

In regard to the role of the personnel, [not further identified] this has already been organized and implemented by a representative of the National Defense Secretariat, and the commander of the first zone will be responsible for coordinating the activities. These members have proceeded to give aid, cordon off critical areas to prevent looting, and help clear the rubble to recover wounded people or - unfortunately -- corpses. Likewise, the National Defense Secretariat's heavy equipment, such as trucks, bulldozers, excavators, and so forth, have arrived and are now working. Later the mayor will give you further reports on the plan that is being carried out in coordination with the National Defense Secretariat.

The National Defense Secretariat has never lost contact with the 36 military zones; we have maintained constant communication through the radio-telegraph system. The president and government secretary were immediately told that the State of Baja California suffered no casualties and no problems. The same goes for the States of Sonora, Chihuahua, Sinaloa, Durango, Coahuila, and Nuevo Leon. The states of Nayarit, Zacatecas, San Luis Potosi, and Tamulipas report no problems. Guanajuato, Queretaro, Hidalgo, Tlaxcala, Puebla, and part of Veracruz are without problems; only part of Veracruz sustained some damages. The rest of the republic, meaning the southeast, which includes Oaxaca, Guerrero, Chiapas, Tabasco, Campeche, and Yucatan reports no problems.

The main damage was inflicted along a line that covers part of Veracruz, the Federal District, the States of Mexico, Michoacan, and Colima. These are the places that have sustained the greatest damage. A report was received from the 20th Military Zone, stating that heavy material losses were sustained in Colima; consequently, plan DN-3 was put into action. A minor was crushed by a wall; public installations and private houses in the area sustained cracks, but no human losses were reported. The railroad traffic was interrupted because a slope crumbled between Puente Negro and the station in Jala.

The 21st Military Zone in Morelia, Michoacan, and Lazaro Cardenas sent the following report: 3 dead and 197 wounded with 65 in critical condition; 8 hotels, 5 buildings, and 5 theaters sustained considerable damage. The Municipal Palace and telegraph and post offices sustained considerable damage. The general hospital, a bridge, and three school rooms collapsed. The road between La Mira and Playa Azul showed some cracks. Two hotels were destroyed in Playa Azul, Michoacan. Two children suffocated in Cotija, Michoacan. The Playa Azul Hotel collapsed in Ciudad Guzman, Michoacan; 30 died and 150 were wounded. Morelia, Michoacan, and the rest of the jurisdiction report only cracks in some buildings. Telephone communication is still out.

The most recent communication we have received was sent by the governor of Guerrero, asking me to tell the president of the republic that the port of Acapulco reports no damage. Some damages are reported in Ixtapa, Zihuatanejo, but only one life was lost; a person was found under the rubble of his own house. The rest of the State of Guerrero reports no damages, except in Zihuatanejo, where the Riviera Hotel, Presidente Hotel, Dorado Pacifico Hotel, Sheraton Hotel, and Caesar's Palace sustained large cracks. Consequently, they have been completely evacuated.

As you may see, the main problem corresponds to the valley of Mexico on this occasion. The Mexican republic, except for the States of Colima, Michoacan, part of Guerrero, and the Federal District, have sustained no damages. Thank you for your attention.

Tremors Continue

PA200831 Paris AFP in Spanish 0732 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Excerpts] San Jose, 19 Sep (AFP) -- Eighteen hours after a violent earthquake destroyed Mexico City, the scenes of ruin and death provoked by the catastrophe were covered by the night, while rescue brigades continue their difficult work of digging among the rubble for possible survivors.

Reports received in Costa Rica, through ham radio operators and video cassettes, reveal that small tremors continued in Mexico City, provoking panic among a population in excess of 18 million inhabitants. Entire families are sleeping in the open, in the streets and parks, covering themselves with sheets and huddling together, not daring to return to their homes because many of them could crumble at any moment.

Pemex 'Operating Normally'

PA200959 Paris AFP in Spanish 0939 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Madrid, 20 Sep (AFP) -- Ramon Beteta, president of Pemex, has asserted, during a statement to the press, that the oil supply to Mexico City is operating normally following the earthquake. Beteta, who is on a working visit in Spain, asserted that Pemex installations in Mexico City were "not affected by the earthquake, so the fuel supplies for the city are guaranteed."

He said that he had received the information via one of the company's ships, anchored in Mexican waters: "The initiative to establish communications comes from that side, because it is impossible from this side," he added.

SCT TO SIGN TRADE ACCORDS WITH FRANCE, ALGERIA

FL190316 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1540 GMT 16 Sep 85

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- The flight of currency that Mexico is experiencing because of ship freights will decrease considerably in the future after it signs maritime trade accords with France and Algeria.

This announcement was made by Luis Alberto Amado Castro, merchant marine development chairman of the Communication and Transport Secretariat [SCT].

He said those agreements will be signed in Mexico separately with each country and, with it, the national fleet will trade a number of goods.

He asserted that the SCT has signed similar agreements with Brazil, Bulgaria, the GDR, Soviet Union, Spain, Argentina, the Netherlands, and the PRC.

SPADAFORA'S FATHER GIVES ULTIMATUM TO GOVERNMENT

PA202355 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2305 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Panama City, 19 Sep (DPA) -- Carmelo Spadafora, Hugo Spadafora's father, has given the Panamanian Government a 48-hour-ultimatum to clarify the murder of his son, who was found beheaded in Laurel, Costa Rica, 1.5 km from the Panamanian border. Spadafora's father points out that "if within 48 hours the government does not report the truth about my son's murder, I will publish a document I have in Sunday's edition of LA PRENSA." Spadafora's body was taken today from Panama City to his hometown, Chitre, for burial. There were many emotional moments this afternoon in Chitre when thousands of Panamanians received the casket covered with the Panamanian flag. Spadafora's family did not allow any government official to attend the funeral services. The 43-year-old Spadafora participated in the guerrilla movements of Guinea-Bissau, Angola, and Nicaragua where he played an important role in the fall of Anastasio Somoza. However, ever since 1981 he has been opposed to the current Sandinist government and has been fighting with the Miskito Indians from the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast area.

TAIWAN'S VICE PRESIDENT ENDS OFFICIAL VISIT

PA171225 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Lee Teng-hui, vice president of the Republic of China, left Panama after a 6-day official visit. Eric Arturo Delvalle, Panamanian first vice president, and top government officials were at the Omar Torrijos Airport to bid farewell to the distinguished visitor. At the airport, Lee Teng-hui received from Delvalle two albums with photographs of all the ceremonies he attended.

BELIZE'S ESQUIVEL MEETS PRESIDENT, OTHERS

PA182255 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0045 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Panama, 16 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- Today Belizean Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel said here that his country has the "major task" of helping to "unite" the Central American and Caribbean countries. Esquivel, who arrived in this capital on an official visit, said that since Belize is physically a part of Central America and maintains "close links" with the Caribbean nations, it "can help in further uniting cooperation between the two regions." Belize, a British colony until 1981, belongs to the British Commonwealth, but is not in any of the existing Central American organizations because of the Guatemalan veto. After meeting with Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias, the Belizean prime minister also said that his government is continuing to discuss with Guatemala the demarcation of their borders, but that he "does not expect anything specific" before that country's elections on 3 November. Esquivel expressed his hope that the new Guatemalan Government, the first civilian government in 15 years, "will take over peacefully." At the Panamanian Foreign Ministry, the Belizean delegation and Panama's diplomatic officials discussed the current situation in Belize and the region, trade economic relations between the two countries, and the results of a recent meeting between the Contadora Group and the Central American countries, which was held in Panama. The two sides noted their interest in increasing cooperation between the two countries in agricultural development, health, education, and maritime matters. Esquivel said that his delegation arrived in Panama to "introduce the new Belizean Government, increase economic and social relations between the two countries, and to reinforce the existing relations." The Belizean prime minister, who will return to his country tomorrow, also met with Panamanian President Nicolas Ardito Barletta to discuss the "programs for social and economic development that the two countries are implementing to benefit their respective communities."

EL SALVADOR

KIDNAPPERS REPORTEDLY LIST NEGOTIATING DEMANDS

PA192202 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] San Salvador -- An end to the military activity and the air incursions against the population are some of the demands that the command which kidnapped Ines Guadalupe Duarte, daughter of the Salvadoran President, has made to negotiate her release, it was learned in San Salvador today. Members of a so-called Pedro Pablo Castillo Front, about which there is little information, granted an interview to a U.S. news agency on the outskirts of the capital and permitted the agency to listen to a cassette with the voice of the daughter of the Salvadoran president, in which she says she is all right.

According to the rebels, the conditions for negotiating the woman's release are: an end to the Army activity throughout the country, to air and ground incursions, and to arbitrary arrests and the establishment of respect for human rights.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA REITERATES 50-QUETZAL LIMIT ON BONUS

PA190417 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0031 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Address To The Nation by Head of State General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores --live]

[Text] Fellow citizens: The government of the Republic announces to public workers that the decision to increase the emergency bonus by 50 quetzales as of 1 September is a firm and unvarying one. That is to say, it is not subject to any change, either up or down. It has been taken into consideration that the state budget does not allow any change in this amount. It should also be considered that this determination helps all state workers regardless of their category or status. This was clearly expressed on 13 September when it was publicly announced.

Let it be clear that both the emergency bonus originally granted and the increase to be made effective as of 1 September are of a permanent nature. According to the government, these two constitute a right of public workers. This right is not to be diminished, much less eliminated.

In view of what has been explained, those public workers who do not show up for work in accordance with their appointments or contracts will be dismissed according to either the civil service law or the legal provisions that apply to the respective agency. This is to be enforced as of tomorrow. I want to stress that the 50-quetzale monthly increase of the emergency bonus is the only one that can be granted under the current circumstances. Any additional demand would inevitably lead to a personnel cut. Therefore, it is preferable that everyone enjoy a reasonable raise rather than have some enjoy a bigger one to the detriment of the others, who would be left jobless. Thank you very much.

HONDURAS

TROOPS CONSOLIDATE POSITIONS ON BORDER

PA200122 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0005 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 19 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- While the Honduran Army consolidates combat positions on the border with Nicaragua, the civilian population begins to show signs of war psychosis. Some 2,000 Honduran infantrymen, backed by heavy artillery, have been posted along the Nicaraguan border, in the eastern department of El Paraiso, where an armed clash was reported on Friday, 13 September.

Some 2,000 persons of all ages, residents of Espanol Grande and Espanolito, towns attacked by artillery fire last weekend, have been evacuated to Danli, a city some 90 km away. The troops placed near the border have indicated that "it is a good thing that the civilians were evacuated, because in the case of a massive attack from Nicaragua it will be repelled and the fighting will be quite intense. Now we only have to worry about the enemy."

The Honduran soldiers are protected by constant Air Force patrol flights with "Sabre F-86k", Super Mystere, and "A-37" jets. Helicopter brigades have also been charged with providing logistical support to the patrols and advance combat forces, who have already dug trenches in strategic points along the border. In the interior of the country, the infantry, light and heavy artillery brigades, the armored cavalry and special forces are preparing to enter into combat.

SUAZO THANKS REAGAN FOR SOLIDARITY MESSAGE

PA171908 Tegucigalpa televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 17 Sep 85

["Text" of letter sent to President Ronald Reagan by Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova; date not given]

[Text] His Excellency Ronald Reagan
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, D.C.
Dear Mr President:

On behalf of the Honduran nation and the government I am honored to preside over, I thank you for your message of 13 September expressing the valuable U.S. solidarity with Honduras regarding the attacks perpetrated by the Sandinist government against our country. Honduras maintains its firm commitment to seek thorough political solutions for the grave crisis affecting the entire Central American isthmus. At the same time, it is determined to defend with firmness the essential values of our society: our national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

My government will exert with responsibility and serenity our right to act in legitimate defense, in keeping with our people's profound desire for peace. With expressions of my highest consideration and personal esteem,

[Signed] Roberto Suazo Cordova
President of Republic of Honduras

GOVERNMENT REJECTS FEDEFAM ALLEGATIONS

PA162307 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1645 GMT 13 Sep 85

[By Francisco Javier Mejia]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 13 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Government denied today that 21 persons have disappeared in this country in 1985, as alleged by an international humanitarian organization.

The Latin American Federation of Associations of Relatives of Prisoners and Missing People [FEDEFAM], has sent a delegation to Central America. During a stopover in Honduras it denounced the cases of missing persons that allegedly occurred in Honduras this year.

Argentine Elida de Galleti and Uruguayan Carlos Boreli make up the delegation, which travelled to Managua today to continue its inspection tour of the region. The purpose of the trip is to update the information available to the federation on the status of human rights in the Central American isthmus. FEDEFAM is a private organization, but according to its representatives it enjoys UN recognition and has the approval of human rights organizations from 13 countries on the continent.

In Honduras, the delegates met with representatives from the Human Rights Defense Committee, the Committee of Relatives of Missing Detainees in Honduras, and members of trade unions and other popular organizations. According to their statements to the press, the delegates were not received by official authorities or by Armed Forces intelligence authorities in Tegucigalpa.

A military spokesman said, however, that the delegatation's petition to meet with the officials was not presented opportunely and that the delegates themselves were unable to wait the required time for authorization to meet with the officials concerned. Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica was unable to meet with the FEDEFAM members because he was preparing Honduras' arguments for the meeting of Contadora Group plenipotentiaries that began in Panama yesterday.

The delegates visited the Tegucigalpa Central Penitentiary and later the School of Medicine of the National University, where they asked students to treat sick prisoners free of charge. The delegates also talked with Waldo Villalpando, representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

"We share the belief that the refugees are being treated unjustly," Galleti said, referring to a recent military attack on a Salvadoran refugee camp in Honduras which resulted in at least one killed and several injured. The delegates prepared a report on their Central American visit to be read at the next general assembly meeting of the federation in November and at the UN General Assembly in February 1986.

NICARAGUA

COMMANDER DETAILS HONDURAN 'SUPPORT' TO FDN

PA181559 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1215 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Commander Manuel Salvatierra, commander of the 1st Military Region based in Esteli, has said that the counterrevolutionary group that entered the country from Honduras was effectively repelled by the Sandinist People's Army, EPS.
At a news conference held in Esteli yesterday, Commander Salvatierra told national and foreign journalists that the new mercenary incursion was perpetrated by approximately 800 men whose intention was to carry out actions deep inside Nicaraguan territory. The mercenaries, who were supported by the Honduran Army and Air Force, were strongly repelled by the EPS and forced to return to Honduras.

Salvatierra considered the participation of the Honduran Air Force as an action that increases the level of cooperation of the Honduran Government in the mercenary attacks against Nicaragua.

Salvatierra reported that a helicopter of the Sandinist Air Force was damaged as a result of the Honduran Air Force action. He showed fragments of the rockets used by the Honduran planes during their incursion in Nicaraguan territory.

Salvatierra reported that a force of 100 contras is currently operating near San Juan de Rio Coco, and, as a result, the mercenary organization Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, has intensified its attempts to infiltrate our country during the past few weeks. The military commander added that on 13 September, shortly before the air incursion by the Honduran Air Force into Nicaraguan territory, Colonel (Juan Antonio Liconasok), commander of the Honduran 6th Battalion, sent a message to all border units informing them that the Honduran Air Force would attack profitable targets [objetivos rentables] of the EPS.

In another message, also intercepted by the EPS, Enrique Bermudez, former Somozist guard who is now commander of the FDN's so-called Strategic Command, informed his units that upon orders issued by him and the Honduran Army, effective 15 September, no FDN member could circulate in La Fortuna, Capire, Espanolita, Arenales, or other border towns or on nearby roads due to an imminent inspection to be carried out by the Contadora Group in that area.

Bermudez ordered his mercenaries to vanish from Honduran bases in view of an inspection visit by the Contadora Group. This was reported at a news conference by Commander Manuel Salvatierra, chief of the EPS 1st Region. Here is a report by Jaime Zamora, our correspondent in Esteli, who covered the conference for Radio Sandino:

[Begin recording] [Zamora] Enrique Bermudez, former colonel of the Somozist Guard who is now an FDN military commander, ordered his mercenaries at the Honduran bases in La Ladosa, Las Vegas, Los Calpules, and others to vanish on 15 September in light of a possible inspection visit by the Contadora Group. This was reported by Manuel Salvatierra, second in command in the 3d Military Zone and commander of the EPS 1st Region at a news conference with national and foreign journalists which was held today [18 August] at the Government House.

Salvatierra described counterrevolutionary military movements on 12, 13, and 14 September, as well as the support given by the Honduran Army to the Somozist mercenaries during these actions, which he considered very dangerous. He reported that prior to the actions, the Honduran Army had reinforced its bases on the Nicaraguan border, in a precautionary military move, in anticipation of a possible Nicaraguan reply to the preplanned air and artillery attack.

Salvatierra said that on four occasions he tried to contact ranking Honduran military commanders in order to seek peaceful solutions to the conflicts, but thus far he has received no reply. He added that 40 U.S. soldiers accompanied the Honduran troops in their movements. Here are more details given by Commander Manuel Salvatierra:

[Salvatierra] At 1440 on Friday, 13 September, the 2d day of fighting, the Honduran Air Force entered out territory. A little before, Col (Liconasok) of the 6th Battalion transmitted a message to all border units informing them that the Honduran Air Force would attack profitable EPS targets and ordering all troops to be on the alert for a possible reply by our forces. The commander of the 6th Battalion sent that message to his units, warning them to be on the alert, because they would be attacking profitable EPS targets. I am not sure what this means, but I assume it means important targets, which could have military repercussions or which could create a conflict.

There were also communications between the contras in which they mentioned that Honduran Air Force planes would possibly participate in the operations against us. These messages were transmitted from the (?Las Vegas) sector, where they have one of their main camps, from where they communicate with other units. Thus the importance of the recent communication [word indistinct].

Regarding the Honduran Government's allegations that we are attacking border towns, that there are no counterrevolutionary camps in Honduras, and that we are the aggressors [words indistinct].

Enrique Bermudez, who is the chief of the FDN's strategic command, sent a message to his units informing them that upon orders from him and from the Honduran Army, a double order [word indistinct], effective 15 September at 0100 -- 3 days ago -- that no FDN troops should circulate in La Fortuna, Capire, Las Vegas, Espanolita, Arenales, or nearby roads and places, because a group of inspectors of the Contadora Group was expected to arrive in that area in the next few days, and making the commanders [words indistinct] responsible for complying with that order. [end recording]

REAGAN MESSAGE TO ORTEGA REPORTED, ANALYZED

PA171758 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Numerous messages from presidents, heads of state, and international leaders have been received by the Presidency congratulating Nicaragua on the occasion of the anniversary of its independence from Spain. Among approximately 20 telegrams, some were concise and others long. Expressing praise and solidarity were those received from Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid, Fidel Castro, and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, among others. After this introduction, we will read one of these messages. Since it is so short, we will read the complete text. It reads:

14 September 1985
His Excellency, Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president of the Republic of Nicaragua
Dear Mr President, we repeat, dear Mr President:

Since the Nicaraguan people are celebrating their independence, I send greetings in my name and on behalf of the U.S. people.

Sincerely,
Ronald Reagan

We repeat: Since the Nicaraguan people are celebrating their independence, I send greetings in my name and on behalf of the U.S. people.

Sincerely,
Ronald Reagan

These were the terms used by the U.S. President to address the Nicaraguan president. First, perhaps in reciprocity because Nicaragua has always sent the United States greetings on the 4th of July; and second, possibly to comply with an elemental rule in relations between countries.

However, as Nicaraguan journalists, we cannot keep from mentioning in this report that we hope the words expressed by Ronald Reagan, the President of the country he calls the most powerful nation on earth, were said sincerely, as he said, and that they will be demonstrated in our relations effective today. It may be the most concise message, but as the Spaniard Gracian said: If what is brief is good, it is twice as good.

CHAMORRO TESTIMONY ALLEGES CIA CONTROL OF FDN

PA191358 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Sep 85

[By Nuria Cornet]

[Text] The Hague, 18 Sep (EFE) -- Edgar Chamorro, former member of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) Directorate, disclosed before the International Court of Justice at The Hague today the absolute control that the CIA exercises over that anti-Sandinist organization.

A 24-page testimony signed before a notary by Edgar Chamorro was presented today before the International Court at The Hague at the trial against the United States for its alleged aggressions against Nicaragua.

In the testimony, the 54-year-old Chamorro wrote that he was ordained a Jesuit priest in Nicaragua when he was 19 years old. In 1969 he abandoned the priesthood to continue his education in pedagogy, studies he completed at a U.S. university.

In 1977, during the Somozist regime, he served as a member of the Nicaraguan Embassy staff at the United Nations in New York for a year.

Two years later, when Anastasio Somoza's government was overthrown, he left Nicaragua, returning a few months later to learn firsthand what was being done by the new government established by the FSLN and to decide whether he and his family would return to Nicaragua or remain abroad.

Even though I am for economic and social changes in Nicaragua, I saw then, and I still see, that the FSLN's policy and plans were, and are, much too radical, Chamorro says in his testimony.

Chamorro continues, saying that this was why he decided to stay in Miami, and in 1980 he formed, together with other well-known anti-Sandinists, the so-called Nicaraguan Democratic Union (UDN). Jose Francisco Cardenal, who held the office of vice president in the new Sandinist government's State Council, was the leader of the UDN.

In 1981 the UDN experienced some changes, and Cardenal was contacted by CIA representative, Chamorro added.

In his testimony, presented in writing since he cannot leave the United States, where he has requested permanent residency, Chamorro said that Cardenal, on behalf ot the UDN, attended several meetings with representatives of the CIA in Washington and Miami.

Cardenal was told that the U.S. Government would help them overthrow the FSLN. However, to receive this help they would have to join ranks with the Somozist National Guardsmen who at that time were carrying out sporadic incursions into Nicaragua from Honduran territory, Chamorro testified before the International Court.

According to Chamorro, in the beginning Cardenal and the UDN refused to join ranks with the former members of Somoza's National Guard because they knew of the crimes the National Guard had committed.

However, Chamorro added, we were also aware of the fact that without the help of the United States there was no chance of removing the Sandinists from power. Chamorro went on to say that General Vernon Walters, at that time U.S. assistant secretary of state and the former CIA deputy director, met with Cardenal to urge him to accept the CIA's proposal.

In his written testimony Chamorro also mentions how the UDN joined ranks with the former Somoza guardsmen and how the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) was formed in Guatemala in 1981.

According to the Nicaraguan politician, the FDN immediately began to receive substantial, continuous financial and military aid from the CIA, and it continued to expand its ranks with former guardsmen in exile in El Salvador, Guatemala, and the United States.

In 1982 the FDN became a well-trained armed force with 4,000 men capable of causing great damage to Nicaragua.

In his lengthy testimony Chamorro explained how they killed defenseless residents in Nicaraguan towns and mentioned the changes in strategy ordered by the CIA when a certain action was being planned or depending on the repercussions outside Nicaragua or in the United States.

He also explained how Cardenal withdrew from the FDN after he lost his influence within the organization and because of the constant problems he had with the CIA members.

Chamorro also explained how he became a member of the Political Directorate of that Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary organization and why he withdrew from the organization in 1984 after he realized it had become an instrument of the U.S. Government, particularly the CIA.

Chamorro's testimony is the last to be presented at the trial that began on 12 September in The Hague. A ruling is expected on Friday.

BERMUDEZ SAYS 'REGIME MAY SUDDENLY COLLAPSE'

PA181623 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 9 Sep 85 p 33

[By Oscar Leonardo Montalban]

[Excerpts] Enrique Bermudez, commander in chief of the Strategic Command of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) -- the most powerful organization struggling against the Sandinist Front -- has stated somewhere in Nicaragua that "Managua is not too far from us since we are not interested in a prolonged people's war but in being there soon."

Later he added: "As Nicaraguans we know that the Nicaraguan people want a prompt solution, and that is what we are seeking. That is why we are making greater sacrifices and efforts to provoke the collapse of the Sandinist and communist regime as soon as possible." He added: "We know that this is the way to reduce the cost in human lives and suffering and the material destruction that results from a war that we don't want but that has been imposed on us by the Sandinists."

Commander Bermudez was asked if the Nicaraguan Sandinist-communists will fall in 1985 and if he had any other predictions. He said: "I don't want to raise false expectations among the Nicaraguan people, who have always held onto their hopes. Everyone wants an answer, but I must not be categorical because of the situation."

He noted: "Last year, in 1984, there was much illusion, many possibilities. However, the unexpected happened: U.S. aid was cut, and the plans had to be suspended. But I can state now that this year the FDN is going to be hitting stronger than ever, and, taking this into consideration, it is possible that the Sandinist regime may suddenly collapse."

The rebel leader added: In addition to this, we think that a large sector of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] is a potential ally that will be on our side in the next few months, because most members of the EPS do not agree with the system.

Bermudez explained: Today the war has taken an intense path that is different from the past. Now we have the support of the peasants and the people in general. The Sandinists have lost the support of all the people in the areas where the struggle is more intense. Today the factor of surprise is one our side.

Today, the rebel chief added, we have a strong arm that we are beginning to flex and that is beginning to hit where it hurts. Therefore, this is a new form of struggle, a new phase that will speed up the liberation of the Nicaraguan people.

Commander Bermudez answers questions in a quiet but firm tone. He stated: "The recent military actions are nothing but important points in the development of the struggle, which we have renewed with great vigor after being forces to reduce its intensity by 25 to 30 percent because of the aid cut in 1984."

The commander was asked why, if the FDN is efficient and has fire-power, does the FDN not seize and hold cities. He answered:

"The people are accustomed to having an image to look at, and all the people believe that in all wars the seizing and holding of a town or city is a priority. However, different wars and conditions demand different strategies."

Bermudez added: "We are not interested in seizing cities now for several reasons.

"One of them is to avoid the spilling of blood. We know that the communists use human shields made up of civilians and prisoners placed around towns as barricades. They have done this in Managua and other cities." He added: "They also use this tactic whenever they send a convoy to the war fronts: In the front truck -- which is the first one to be destroyed whenever there is an ambush -- they place women and children in order to use the dead later for propaganda against us."

The commander concluded by stating: "We are struggling as hard as we can and hitting increasingly harder in order to achieve final victory and to put an end to the suffering, pain, and bloodshed of our people."

REBEL PLANS TO CAPTURE SIUNA FOILED

PA190354 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 16 Sep 85 p 1

[Text] Siuna, Special Zone 1 -- The Sandinist People's Army has seized the initiative from the counterrevolutionary forces who tried to occupy this locality and has inflicted blows on the so-called "September" Plan of the CIA mercenaries, whose atrocities were revealed here yesterday by Jose David Zuniga, the FSLN political coordinator in the area.

The Sandinist leader explained that the rebels sustained 70 casualties as a result of operations implemented in the past few days. Thirteen captured mercenaries were exhibited, and a significant number of kidnapped peasants who were forcibly trained have expressed their disenchantment.

Zuniga reported that at least 1,000 counterrevolutionaries are operating in this area, which is considered by the enemy to be of "strategic" value because it is in the center of the Atlantic region.

Zuniga added: In the past 15 days our troops rescued a group of Sumus recently kidnapped by the mercenaries. This shows the degree of protection afforded to the people in this area.

The FSLN political coordinator for Special Zone 1 said that as a result of the most recent terrorist operations 25 trucks were set on fire, 100 civilians killed, and some 4 bridges destroyed. He explained that over the past month the people have become involved in a large-scale mobilization; state workers have suspended their main duties to participate in defense tasks; and students have sacrificed their classes to man defensive trenches.

Speaking after the closing of the cattle fair "for peace and autonomy," Zuniga said that throughout this period the regional government invested approximately 90 million cordobas to help those displaced by the war.

ORTEGA OFFERS MEXICO ASSISTANCE FOLLOWING QUAKE

PA200327 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0215 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Managua, 19 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaragua has offered "all the cooperation this country can give Mexico" following the earthquake that occurred today in that nation, the Presidential House reported tonight.

An official communique stated that Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega had sent a message to his Mexican counterpart, Miguel de la Madrid, saying that "with deep sorrow we are receiving the news about the earthquake."

"On behalf of the Government and people of Nicaragua, I wish to express our solidarity and offer you all the cooperation Nicaragua can give Mexico at this time," the presidential message adds.

"This is a tragedy," Ortega added, "which all Nicaraguans regret and feel affected and moved by."

CASTRO CALLS FOR SUSPENSION OF MEXICAN DEBT DUE TO QUAKE

PA200217 Havana International Service in Spanish 0022 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Greetings, dear listeners. Dear listeners, Cuban President Fidel Castro has just participated once more in the Latin American Press Forum on the regional financial crisis. He referred on this occasion to the natural disaster which the brother Mexican people suffered this morning. Following are his words in this connection, which includes his reading of a news report on the earthquake:

[Begin recording in progress] [Castro]...and we got here [corrects himself] PRENSA LATINA gathered some information. I think that his...where did you get if from? Washington?

[Unidentified speaker] It was taken from ham radio operators' reports which were received from Bogota, where the television is being...

[Castro interrupts] Yes. It says: The number of dead from the earthquake which shook Mexico this morning is estimated in excess of 500. If the disaster is of such a magnitude, the number of human casualties will undoubtably be much greater. This is only a preliminary report offered by television Channel 13 in that country. It says that the situation is dramatic, and that the number of casualties may surpass all imaginable estimates, according to a Red Cross official who was interviewed by that channel. The panorama in the Mexican capital is terrifying; hotels and buildings have become smoking cemeteries, which are being removed by rescue brigades and volunteers with the hope of saving those who were trapped under the mountain of ruins.

The strong tremor, which reached 7.8 degrees on the Richter Scale -- others say it measured 8.1 degrees -- destroyed more than one-third of the tallest buildings in the Mexican capital, which has been declared a national disaster zone. Reports received in the U.S city of El Paso, on the border, state that the federal district neighborhoods which were affected the most are Nuevo Leon, Tlatelolco, and Roma, where vast areas were reduced to pieces of cement, wood, and twisted steel. Electric lines were cut in large areas of the city, where many people are still trapped in the underground trains, and are facing the danger of gases leaking from damaged pipes.

Witnesses of the tragedy assert that hundreds of people have been buried alive under the ruins of the buildings, while helicopters fly over the city to ascertain where to send emergency help. Hospitals are paralyzed in the downtown area due to a lack of electricity, water, and sufficient personnel to take care of the victims, according to a ham radio operator who was heard in El Paso. Well, this sounds like a nuclear disaster. It is said that earthquakes and hurricanes unleash the energy of hundreds of large atomic weapons. It seems that the epicenter was located in the Pacific. Someone told me -- I have not been able to ascertain this -- that the epicenter was located near Acapulco. The epicenter was located approximately 400 km from Mexico City. I was told by a companero whom I sent to visit the Mexican Embassy -- I tried to contact them at noon but no one was there to see what news they had -- that there is no communication, there is no communication with Mexico. The disaster must have indeed been large. Also, if so many buildings have collapsed, all the gas and fuel lines have been destroyed. Thus, we are talking about a great tragedy.

However, we can still harbor the hope that the number of victims will not be large; nevertheless, if the earthquake was of such a magnitude, I think that the casualties sustained by a city with a population of 17 million will not be counted in the hundreds.

Well, I have availed myself of the occasion to give you the news, which has come like... [changes thought] we have a proverb which says that when it rains it pours. In other words, this catastrophe has taken place on top of a tremendous economic tragedy. This is what we call the unexpected, because no one expects them. We do not have unexpected events that will help improve the situation, but we do have unexpected events that worsen it.

I mentioned yesterday oil, and the reduction of revenues from oil sales, and this morning I read a news dispatch on a WASHINGTON POST article which said that Saudi Arabia was going to increase its daily production by 1 million barrels; they are now threatening to do this. The act of increasing production from 2 million to 3 million [units not specified] is a reaction to the situation. Apparently some have not adjusted to the quotas, and now these threats. Who knows what is behind all this?

However, it represents a serious problem because there are transnational companies that owe money, and the oil suppliers are facing a difficult situation. A two, three or four dollar cut in oil prices does not solve the current situation being faced by the countries which do not produce oil, but it does represent a catastrophe for some countries who were at the limit because the oil prices dropped from about 30 dollars to 26 dollars. So, a two dollar or three dollar difference represents a disaster for some of the countries that are believed to have the best possibilities -- for example, Venezuela or Ecuador.

This news was [words indistinct] so I can imagine the reaction in Mexico when they receive the news that the others are increasing their daily production by 1 million barrels. What will be the cost of all the destruction provoked by the earthquake? I think that -- as elemental solidarity with Mexico -- we should divulge this and issue calls for aid to Mexico amidst its tragedy. We have modestly offered to cooperate in anything that they need. Plasma, if they need plasma, or if they need blood. I remember the earthquake in Peru, which killed 70,000 persons. We did not even have relations with Peru at the time, but we urged the people to donate blood and 100,000 donations were received in 10 days.

It seems to me that Mexico will need a large dose of solidarity. We must urge the countries throughout the world to help Mexico, the industrialized countries. It is a national disaster zone; according to the evidence it is a world disaster. If a city with 17 million inhabitants is hit by an earthquake, it becomes a world disaster, not a national disaster.

I believe that it can also be categorically stated that the payments must be suspended. I think that demands should be made so the creditors [corrects himself] Mexico should suspend payments. The creditors should suspend the collections amidst this catastrophe. How can they pay with all the dead, victims, and mutilated? I wonder how Mexico will get the resources to counter such a disaster.

If the earthquake hit the Pacific side, many cities must have been affected. If the epicenter was located near Acapulco, what is left of Acapulco, taking into consideration that it hit Mexico City with such violence? Cuernavaca is in its path; Morelos was also in the way.

I did not want to mention anything in the beginning because there was still [corrects himself] I thought we should not alarm anyone. However, the news we continue to receive is pointing in that direction. [end recording]

CASTRO VIEWS PERUVIAN PROPOSAL ON FOREIGN DEBT

FL191830 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1202 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Statements by President Fidel Castro and unidentified speaker of the Latin American Press Forum in response to a question posed by Peruvian journalist (Mauricio Moulder) of Lima's daily HOY during an 18 September session of the Press Forum on the Regional Financial Crisis, at Havana's Palace of Conventions -- recorded]

[Text] [(Moulder)] I want to make a commentary that could also be a question and that, hopefully, will be worthy of comment from the comrade speaker. The theme I want to discuss seems to have been dodged at this meeting by the majority of speakers. I believe, as a Peruvian I feel almost an obligation to point out, that in Peru today there is a concrete alternative to the debt problem. I believe that Comrade President Alan Garcia's proposal to pay up to 10 percent of our exports has not been commented upon by the majority of speakers here because there is a certain tendency to think that there exists a type of contradiction between the Peruvian position and the position that has been approved almost unanimously here to definitely not pay the unilateral debt.

I want to stress that the Peruvian proposal and the Cuban proposal are absolutely in agreement with the fundamental aspect of the problem. Both proposals reflect the belief that the debt is unpayable. So that it is known, the Peruvian case is the first in South America where a government has officially recognized, by the president of the Republic himself, the prime minister, and the minister of economy, that the debt is unpayable. I would like to cite, in that sense, a statement by the Peruvian prime minister and minister of economy in a speech to parliament presenting all the work plans of the new Aprista [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance, APRA] government which said: In our understanding this is the only way to confront the problem -- referring to Latin American unity -- because it is clear that paying $300 or $350 million a year -- referring to Peru and that 10 percent because Peru produces, rather exports, $300 or $350 million a year, which is equivalent to 10 percent of our exports -- we cannot resolve the problem of the debt.

One must not forget that the debt would increase by billions of dollars annually simply through interest accumulation. I know I heard Commander in Chief Fidel Castro say this in the closing speech at the Latin American Youth and Student Congress. At the same time, I want to stress the proposal of President Alan Garcia when he says, in conjunction with what Commander in Chief Fidel Castro has expressed, that today in Peru, as well as in Cuba, the condition of being debtors unites us. "In a speech to the municipalities' Popular Assembly meeting in Lima, Alan Garcia said: We are establishing the length of time and the interest ourselves now. I am firing the mayors of Peru and along with them everyone in Peru who supports that policy. The conditions are no longer set by them. The conditions will be set by us, at any cost. The proposal of 10 percent of exports is an extension without measures, without time limit for payment and also the termination of usurious and unfair interest rates that have been imposed on us until now.

Then, what I would like is a commentary from the comrade speaker and also from Comrade Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz on the tendency of the international press to set the Cuban proposal against the Peruvian proposal when, it seems to me, they are in agreement since both proposals expound a new structuring of the problem that the creditors themselves state.

If it is so difficult to think that the unilateral moratorium of the debt will be accepted by the international banks, we believe that they would accept the proposal of payment of 10 percent of exports with less difficulty. In any case, we know and understand that the Peruvian proposal, and President Alan Garcia has so stated, intended to establish roads of unity with other Latin American countries so that another alternative can be found, possibly even the alternative being proposed here now, which is a unilateral moratorium.

One has to understand that the circumstances for countries like Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, and Bolivia are different from Cuba's becuase they are countries that cannot support a blockade, as Cuba has, even for 6 months. Thus, a political alternative has to be found, such as the one proposed by Peru, before deciding it is a simple economic alternative based strictly on a mathematical formula. I believe, in that sense I demand, a show of solidarity on the part of the comrades present for the Peruvian proposal because it is not a proposal contradictory to the Cuban proposal. It is not an antirevolutionary proposal. It is more of a revolutionary proposal since only Peru, practically alone, is confronting today the U.S. imperialism that has tried to impose the Brooks-Alexander Amendment and repress the country's balance of payments and trade exchange. No, no. [applause]

[Unidentified Speaker] This is a little complicated for one reason. I am in the United Left. We are in opposition to the government. I am on the left of the United Left making it even more complicated. Nevertheless, I believe first that 10 percent is not 10 percent but rather 22 percent. We had a round table discussion the other day with the minister -- you will have to forgive the internal political discussions that we are having here with the comrade -- we had a meeting with the minister of economy 4 days ago when we debated the current political economy in Peru and its perspectives in the long run.

The interesting political phenomenon is that we were invited by the opposition, from the left and right, to discuss the situation with them. The terrible part is that it was noted that there are no economic goals, no direction, and that the inflation diagnosis is being duplicated. There is an inflation diagnosis at the Central Bank and another inflation diagnosis at the Ministry of Economy. One controls inflation by costs; they freeze prices, lower prices, lower interest rates, whatever. The Central Bank follows a restrictive monetary policy. They pay 72.5 percent interest to the excess bank reserves, but the bank is charging 75 percent interest to the productive sectors. The bankers then seem to have turned around and given all their money to the Central Bank, and thus the money supply has been limited. Money circulation has been terribly reduced, and the economy seems to be entering the process of an accelerated crisis.

Nevertheless, this will be seen in the next 60 days. The indicators are new. The energy indicator has fallen 10 percent for the month of August, but I think that within 2 months we shall see whether it is a crisis of great magnitude, as the Argentine crisis is, or not.

At that meeting with the minister 10 percent was mentioned. And I had to raise my hand and observe that 10 percent of the public debt is sensational. The public debt amounts to $9 billion, the total debt is $14 billion, and 12 percent interest is being paid on the remaining $5 billion. So we are talking about $600 million plus more than $300 million, which total $900 million, divided by $3 billion in exports, which does not equal 10 percent but 30 percent, or 28 percent of exports.

I am not sure they are going to be able to meet this pledge of 10 percent, because if the private debt is not incorporated into this 10 percent, it simply is not 10 percent but 30 percent, or 28. So it is not probable. On the other hand, I think there is some sensationalism in stating that we are imposing the conditions. We have not imposed even one condition.

All we have said is that we are not going to pay this year, and next year we will pay 10 percent while we study what we are going to do. This is a little different from imposing one's own terms. What we are doing is letting time pass. And we are not the first country to do so by any means. In 1979 I participated in the renegotiations in Nicaragua, and we spoke of 6 years of grace and 8 years to pay, and that was an unprecedented renegotiation. We are talking of maximum interest of 7 percent. I remember the first time we mentioned it at negotiations in Mexico, and the bankers almost bit us. It is also true that the first time we mentioned it we spoke of a 23-year grace period.

I find that 10 percent is timid. This is going to sound paradoxical, but the velocity of history in debt matters has accelerated tremendously since the Havana debt meeting to which Comrade Fidel invited us. I believe if there has been a catal zing agent among the international banking events in the last 6 weeks, it was what happened here on 30 July. I say this because of the following: There is a danger that a country may say: "Cuba is right, I won't pay anything," and this might lead creditors to react by saying: "Pay me something." This is notable in the case of Mexico. In Mexico's case, $48 billion was refinanced, and the first year's amortization was $250 million. How much is $250 million in comparison with Mexico's exports? Nine-and-one-half percent, more or less. Then 10 percent is brutal. Conceptually, on 28 July, 10 percent is brutal. On 1 August, 10 percent is timid, especially when it isn't 10 percent but 30 percent. Because I do not think it is a question of "tell me what you pay and I will tell you how leftist you are." That is not the question. It is more a conceptual problem. It is a matter of what stance you take regarding international capital. And here I lamentably have to speak as a member of the United Left; we deal with international capital not only because of the debt but also as private international capital, which in the case of Peru is very important. In that sense we support the cancellation of the petroleum contracts, and we hope remittance controls will be applied to foreign earnings of multinational enterprises. That is, the entire matter should be considered as a whole. In the case of Peru it turns out that we lose almost $1 billion from foreign investments in terms of bonuses, earnings, trademarks, etc; apart from servicing the debt. If we cannot deal with the total problem we would do better to forget about it. This is the way we view the case of Peru.

I would also say that it is necessary to be careful with sensationalism, and I told Minister Alva this because I believe it is sensationalism to say that this is the first time there has been talk of dealing with the debt this way in Latin America. It is not so. The matter has been discussed in Nicaragua and Bolivia -- I remember the big headline in PRESENCIA and other newspapers -- it has been discussed in Argentina, very loudly. Alfonsin spoke out very strongly on the subject, and that's enough. We cannot say there is no precedent for stopping payments for a time because Venezuela did this for approximately 2 1/2 years and did not pay anything until it reached an agreement under a new government. (?That would be my) answer, thank you.

[Castro] I have spoken at length on this subject. I have spoken twice on the subject of the theories. Beginning with the EXCELSIOR interview, I studied the different possibilities. The possibility of paying the debt with a percentage of exports had been proposed by various persons and was one of the different formulas presented. From the mathematical point of view, I analyzed what it would mean to pay with 20 percent of total exports. This was published in an interview that I imagine a lot of you must have seen. In 20 years, $200 billion would be paid out. Supposing that although exports exceeded $100 billion, Latin America would not pay more than 20 percent of the first $100 billion.

I did all the calculations and, as I have said, $200 billion would be paid out in 20 years, and there would be an enormous debt at the end of these 20 years, a debt of more than $1 trillion dollars if interest rates remained at present levels, more or less. I did my calculations using a maximum interest of 10 percent, and I got a debt of more than $1 trillion after 20 years, although I do not have the exact figures here. I had studied that possibility, and when the 10-percent formula was advanced at the Continential Debt Conference, I again studied the formula and applied the same analysis to it from the arithmetical or mathematical point of view. And I set out the consequences of applying the formula. The Peruvian Government began by speaking of applying it for 1 year, during the coming 12 months. I extended it as a formula. Like this, [Castro performs mathematical calculations] Supposing it was at 6 percent, it would be a little less than 1 million, or 857,000. I applied four variations. One variation was that 10 percent was paid, and although exports exceeded 10 percent, no more than 10 percent was paid.

I optimized everything, estimating that the Latin American exports would grow by 10 percent annually over a period of 20 years. Instead what is happening is that they are dropping, not growing. Suppose not even a single cent more of interest on the loans was imposed and that the Latin Americans set a limit of payments at $10 billion annually on their total debt: at the end of 20 years they would have paid $200 billion. That $200 billion is not an insignificant amount. That amount in convertible currency well invested in economic development could be equal to $600 billion in investment. I believe that is a good start for development, not an insignificant amount. At the end of 20 years -- the comrades operating the computers made a mistake because the first response they gave was $2 million and many more millions -- the real figure is $1.8 quintillion, after 20 years based on current interest rate and a 10-percent growth rate annually, something which is impossible. Using the other formula providing for the payment of 10 percent of all exports and a growth rate of 10 percent annually, if the interest rates remained at today's levels, at the end of 20 years a large amount of money would have been paid -- I have the figures here -- and the debt would remain at about $1 trillion.

Using that same formula providing for the payment of 10 percent of all exports and a growth rate at 10 percent annually, in addition to no new loans being made during those 20 years, almost $500 billion would be paid in 20 years, and the debt would still be $100 billion bigger than it is today, nearly $450 billion. From the mathematic point of view, applying the 10 percent formula will not solve the problem.

I said that the idea of solving the problem with the payment of 10 percent [of exports] had not been fully explained. There is not a single word in it about the interest, not a single word on accumulated moneys and the interest on them, not a single word on the total figure to be paid at the end of 10 or 20 years and what will be done with those amounts of money. That is, this is a statement that we will pay with the 10 percent, but there is no analysis.

When I was reviewing all these problems I made many analyses, several formulas, and variants. That is why, by analyzing the various problems. I reached the conclusion that the debt was unpayable. I also said that proposing the 10-percent formula was a step forward, compared to what is going on now. It was a challenge to the banking industry, to standards, to all established international norms. In that sense, it was positive, that is, with respect to what is being done now. But I insisted and continue to insist today that it does not solve the problem.

I analyzed it only from the economic and mathematical point of view. That is what the consequences would be -- 10 percent payment without saying if the interest payments stop, that no interest on the debt is paid.

Then there is a possibility of paying the debt, that some day it will be settled if no interest is paid. What is going to be done with all the accumulated moneys, if interest rates are the normal amounts, or 8 or 6 percent? What is going to be done with that money in the end? The conclusion after 20 years is that the debt has to be abolished. After 20 years with that formula, the debt amounts to five times more than what is owed today, and in the end the same conclusion will have to be reached, that the debt has to be erased, abolished; that is with the 10 percent formula.

I said I analyzed from two angles because one seeks a formula. As was said, the banking industry will say that they need to be paid something instead of nothing and still have the hope of demanding payment in the future the entire debt. The debt is a tax, a great tax, and requires a surgical procedure. When there is a surgical procedure, all the malignant cells have to be removed to avoid a recurrence. As you know, if this is not done cancer will recur. If you are going to perform a major surgical procedure with general anesthesia, with all the risks this implies, it is better to remove the entire cancer. For the international banking industry and creditor countries to accept this, it is necessary to perform a major surgical procedure. And if the banking industry and creditor countries accept this, then I go ahead and remove the entire cancer, I do not leave behind a single malignant cell. Otherwise, it would be fighting a great battle without resolving the problem.

There are other factors. This is a force majeure reason, not being able to pay. In law, there is force majeure. For example, if you sell a house by contract...If I sell a house or this table to Arteche [not further identified] and the table burns down, he could say find me another one. Let us have another example; if we sell him this Palace of Conventions and it burns down, we cannot fulfill the contract and deliver the Palace of Conventions. That is force majeure. As Lopez Michelsen said here during the Havana Conference, this is a clause of impossible fulfillment.

I believe that the nonpayment argument is strengthened by moral reasons, very powerful historic reasons. That is the reality. They make the nonpayment argument stronger. If you have to defend a cause, you have to support it with strong and profound arguments. We have said that paying the debt is a political impossibility, and when we say that we are thinking of what happened in Santo Domingo, what happened in Guatemala, what happened in Panama, what is going on right now in Bolivia. I was reading a news dispatch -- I am sorry to say it was disrespectful to stop listening to the speaker for at least a minute because it was a dispatch on Bolivia -- which mentions that strong criticism on the part of the Catholic Church, the workers' organization, and parliament's interpellation of the economic policy of a nonliberal nature have left the government of Victor Paz in a very difficult situation, La Paz observers have indicated.

In less than 45 days, this explains that the situation is very difficult. The country has been at a standstill for 15 days. These formulas had not been able to be applied anywhere without causing political and social crisis and terrible tensions. Of course, I am not judging here the Bolivian Government policies but I am analyzing the events, reading the news of what is happening everywhere.

Guatemala has an oppressive, strong regime, very repressive and bloody. One hundred thousand people have been killed in the country. And there are, I do not know how many, tens of thousands of missing people. I want you to know that there are no political prisoners in Guatemala, that category does not exist, and it has not existed. They are all dead or missing. All the opposition fell on the hands of that regime, 100,000.

Well, they could not apply these neoliberal, and IMF measures. The students, the people demonstrated. They had to reduce bus fare prices. If these measures cannot even be applied in Guatemala, it is impossible that a civil government, a government which has reached power though constitutional means, a democratic government, cannot apply those measures. This is an analysis from the political standpoint. I consider the analysis from the historical and moral point of view very important. From a historical standpoint, our countries are really creditors and not debtors. That is the great historical truth. It is undeniable.

Who has compensated Africa for the tens of millions which were taken away from them and its people turned into slaves? For them and their descendants to work all their lives and create the wealth with which Europe and the United States developed? Who has compensated them?

During the continental dialogue, a Haitian leader said something incredible. That the French regime, the old mother country, charged the Haitian slaves a fee. They paid a fee to the enslaver for tens of years. Thus, the slaves had to pay a fee to the enslavers and to the mother country. That's incredible, I did not know that. It is amazing. So, we know this hemisphere's history. The conquest, the discovery. The millions, and tens of millions who died during the first years. In Mexico alone, 4 million died during the first 30 years. The same happened in Peru and everywhere. In Cuba, they almost wiped out the indians while they forced them to look for gold nuggets along the river banks. That is the real story. Here the indian population was practically wiped out. In our country there are very few indians, some were left in some isolated areas of the country. Because they were wiped out by having them work in gold mines, looking for gold. Our country's history documents all the fleets which passed by with gold cargoes. With the gold extracted from the mines. Gold, silver, emeralds, extracted with the work of our slave indians and mixed-race people. For centuries, centuries ago, we began to finance development of the industrialized world. We continued to finance it after the so-called independence. And we have been financing it during this century, we are financing it now.

So historically, our countries were colonies. We were forced to be backwards, underdeveloped. Colonialism, neocolonialism, and imperialism are the responsible ones for our underdevelopment and our poverty. They are the historic debtors. What kind of compensation have they given us? Do you remember what happened during the World War II, the genocide against the Jewish people? They were killed. Millions were killed in gas chambers. However, today the FRG is paying Israel for the crimes they committed against the Jews. Now, I ask myself, what kind of indemnity has Europe and the United States paid to Africa for the slaves? And the millions of men and women who died? What kind of indemnity has this hemisphere paid for the tens, hundred of million of men and women who died performing slave or semi-slave work in mines, looking for gold. An indemnity to our countries has never been mentioned by the industrialized world to compensate for what they exploited from us, for how they mistreated us. Not even a cent. And they want us to pay them $360 billion, and $400 billion. I even figured it out. It would take 13 centuries, not 13 centuries, 130 centuries, almost 13,000 years counting a dollar per second, as I explained, what we have to pay in 10 years.

There are some countries like Costa Rica who owe $100,000 per square kilometer. I figured out that in a hungry continent with 390 million people, that with $400 billion, with what we have to pay in interest in 10 years, which is the amount demanded from us, 3,500 calories and 135 grams of protein per capita can be provided daily over a period of 17 years to all the people of Latin America with the present wheat prices. I do not know if it has decreased.

That is what they are asking us, just for debt interest. Those who looted us, oppressed us, exploited us and developed themselves with our sweat and blood. I believe that is a very strong reasoning.

From the moral standpoint, what happened with the money has been analyzed. Everyone knows what happened. Some small amounts were used for infrastructure projects, some investments, some trade balance problems. But everyone knows that between $350 billion and $200 billion have left Latin America. That money which was lended fled the countries. Many times it did not even arrive to the countries, it did not arrive, it stayed away. That money did not benefit the countries. Another portion of the money was wasted, another portion was used for weapons, for wars, to repress the people.

How did Pinochet spend 23 billion? He opened the tariff barriers. He imported goods because of course, the country did not produce them because the industry was closed as a result of the competition of South Korea, Taiwan, Japan, etc. Open the tariff barriers as the Chicagao School says. Find money to import what it can produce. Maintain the military regime, which was supported by imperialism for political reasons, and also received credits because of imperialism's political reasons. This was given to an illegal government which resulted from the coup d'etat which ousted a regime of the people, an elected democratic government, an attempt to build socialism which was seen with good eyes by the entire world, which was responsible for the death of such an outstanding man as Salvador Allende. They have loaned $23 billion to an illegal government.

Then they ask the Chilean people to pay the $23 billion when the democratic opening appears; a government in Argentina where 10,000, 15,000 people disappear. No one knows how many people have disappeared. Conservatively, at least 10,000 people have disappeared. Some say 30,000 disappearances. They construct monumental projects, large stadiums, large buildings. They loot the public treasury, rob it. They enrich themselves. They open the tariff barriers, sell the country, liquidate the country. That money was loaned irresponsibly to that country. Then come the people beginning the democratic process, and they are required to pay to the last penny. That is not moral. The same is applicable to the rest of the countries everywhere, El Salvador, and Guatemala.

Somoza's money, the money he seized from the Nicaraguan people for so long now, has to be paid. That is the situation. It is money that has been squandered, stolen, spent on arms, or saved to be used for repression. Furthermore that money was loaned to a de facto government, an illegal government. The cases are similar in that the constitutional government has to confront those debts, the parliaments, the representatives, the sovereign peoples. They were ministers, they were officials, many times they were private businessmen who mortgaged and sold the country. Based on what constitutional precept, on what judicial precept, did they get the idea that isolated individuals could mortgage and sell their countries?

These are very strong, solid reasons. The liberation theologians and the Christians who have participated in all the meetings have stressed strongly the moral aspect of the question. If you say: I will pay; you make the debt legitimate, you say the debt is just, that it should be paid. You then ignore all the historic reasons. You say it is legal, that it is legitimate, that you will simply give 10 percent because you cannot pay 100 percent. It is simply a reason out of sheer force, and I take force away from it.

I think the masses understand this argument much better. They say it is not radical. I have gotten tired of telling you here that I have not stopped being revolutionary and that it is my formula that appears reformist, moderate, or whatever. I have just confessed to the comrade that I deliberately did not emphasize, so as not to renew the demand, the nationalization of the debt. One could say that I am making radical or superradical statements, and this position is firmly sustained. I have clarified and explained the conclusions to those who have asked me for an explanation. That is to say it is not a radical form when the enemies themselves begin to admit that the formula we are proposing is possible. It is supported by a strong argument. It is based on an overall conception. It is associated with peace because we ask for the debt to be cancelled, and that would be compensated by a reduction in military spending. A part of the war costs should be dedicated to that. It is associated with peace. It is associated with the struggle for peace. It is associated with the new international economic order. It is associated with the idea of integration.

I believe the strength that we derive from this struggle or this well-planted banner helps us to liberate other battles. Then how do we end up? We end up being dependent all our lives. With 10 percent, a large amount of debts would be accumulated after 10, 20, 30 years, since it grows continuously. We would be paying the 10 percent for a thousand years. When we export $500 billion, and we expect to export $200, $300, or $500 billion in the next 40 years, then we would be paying annually 10 percent of $500 billion, or $50 billion a year. Latin America would be paying that fortune all its life, eternally. There would be no new order, no integration. There would be nothing. They are proposing a struggle for all those reasons. Each one of the positions in this combat supports the others. Each of the arguments support the other -- the arguments of economic and material impossibility, political impossibility, and the moral argument. What I have been proposing then is a conception, analyzing all the variants, the possibilities, the possible forms to draw a conclusion in conjunction with my point of view. I do not want to argue with anyone, much less antagonize anyone because what would I gain? It would be ridiculous for you to argue with me. I do not want to antagonize anyone.

The Peruvian comrade is very correct when he says that I am trying to present something more than two different formulas. The two formulas are not the same, even though they are well paired. They were born of the same crisis. From my point of view it was a step forward, as I previously said. It is perhaps the first result of this battle. It is perhaps the first result of this battle. [repeats himself] I have to treat with respect anyone who thinks differently, with absolute respect. There will be many who think differently. One will think one way; another will think another way to devise a formula resulting in a long struggle. In addition, I have profound motivations on this, as I explained to you yesterday.

Imperialism is trying to present a dispute now between Peru and Cuba, not between the positions. They talk about leadership rivalries. They are trying to create division and disunion. I believe there can be union, support, and solidarity. You can be assured of the following. I will explain. We have no responsibility in the campaign waged by the international press, because I have not said even one hostile word against the Peruvian Government, a single disrespectful word, or even any unfriendly words against the Peruvian Government. They know this. The Apristas know that we express our good intentions knowing their economic problems. We inform them of everything, the struggle we are having. We informed them and expressed our intentions of supporting Peru in its struggle to resolve the debt problem before the new 10-percent formula was suggested. I have not pronounced even one unfriendly word. I am not responsible at all for what imperialism is trying to create, a type of rivalry.

The same is true for Peru. The president-elect on 19 July -- and it was not just an impulsive remark, an emotional remark -- made a premeditated, cold statement which he had mentioned to several people.

He made a hostile statement against Cuba, against our country. It was really very painful for us and absolutely unnecessary. It had not been provoked by us in any way. We were practically excluded. It was said this was not an East-West problem but a North-South problem. It was charged that our struggle was an East-West issue, which I believe it is, absolutely. Immediately, they said Cuba had nothing to do with the Latin American world and did not have to speak about this. This is terribly unfair. We are practically excluded from Latin America in that statement. They were harsh, but we did not make any comment. We reacted calmly, because we know any debate or dispute of this kind, any attack or counterattack, will be used by imperialism. So the direction I have followed -- which I believe is the most peaceful, level-headed, and responsible -- is not to make any kind of offensive statement against Peru's new Government. This has been our stand, and it may be verified in all documents, every international press release. I have been noticing for days that they want to show that there is a dispute, but there is none of that from our side.

It is terribly unfair to say that we want to create an East-West issue with this foreign debt problem. We have been struggling for many years. As I explained yesterday, I spoke about the foreign debt problem for the first time 14 years ago in Chile, in 1971, at the Economic Commission for Latin America, and I kept mentioning it in every international event, in 1979, in 1983. It is not new. It isn't something we made up, that we came up with at the last minute. It is a problem we have been mentioning for many years. We have been consistent with our remarks. So why question that right after we have been deprived of everything? After we were expelled from the OAS, relations were broken with Cuba; we were isolated for so long. The sugar quota which had been established for over 100 years was distributed at the expense of Cuba. Even the Alliance for Progress, if there was any small benefit from it, was thanks to Cuba. Now this problem is on the table in part because of Cuba's effort, the length of time it has been bringing it up, and the reasoning it uses to explain it.

We are not responsible if the enemy is trying to take advantage of this matter, because I believe we have not given any reasons for it. We can discuss any thesis respectfully, among all, as we are doing here. We can discuss any thesis, any theory, any point of view without having to be rivals, without having problems or conflicts, or being disrespectful. We will continue to avoid being unnecessarily disrespectful to any government, and we are not going to cooperate with imperialism. And you can be sure that we follow a policy of principles. If Peru, despite this background I have outlined to you, despite there being different kinds of opinions, despite there being an immoral attack on the Cuban revolution in the last few days, despite all this, if Peru is a victim of the least kind of aggression, the least kind of boycott, pressure, economic boycott, as a result of that position of paying 10 percent [of its exports], you can be sure the first country who will give Peru all its support, all its solidarity, and will struggle in all fields of defense of the Peruvian people, in defense of Peru's sovereignty, and in defense of the interests of the Peruvian people will be Cuba. There is no doubt about that. [applause]

PERU'S GARCIA REITERATES FOREIGN DEBT POLICY

PA181359 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 9 Sep 85

[Text] In a recent meeting with peasant leaders, Peruvian President Alan Garcia said that neither now nor in the future will his government allow Peru's foreign debt to be paid at the cost of the current state of misery and hunger. He added: Nor can we allow Peru's development to be halted in order to pay some immoral interests. We shall pay according to our capabilities and without undermining Peru's sovereignty, he said.

VENEZUELAN OIL IMPORTS PART OF AGREEMENT WITH USSR

PA191329 Paris AFP in Spanish 0415 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Havana, 18 Sep (AFP) -- PRENSA LATINA, citing unidentified official Cuban sources, today confirmed that Venezuela has been sending oil to Cuba since 1978 as part of a three-sided agreement with the USSR. The dispatch did not mention the amount of oil supplied by Venezuela. Observers here said that this is the first time that the Venezuelan supply of crude to Cuba was officially confirmed in Havana. PRENSA LATINA cites the sources as stating that Cuba does not reexport any of the Venezuelan oil it receives. The Cuban reexports of fuel include half of the 800,000 tons per year extracted in Cuba and a surplus in oil products, especially naphtha and sometimes gasoline.

As part of an agreement between Cuba and the USSR, the Soviet oil (an unknown amount agreed upon yearly) not used up by the Cuban economy is sold on the international market by the USSR and credited to Havana's funds. The contract between Moscow and Caracas states that Venezuelan clients in Western Europe directly receive the same amount of Soviet crude that Venezuela sends to Cuba. The three-sided agreement saves large sums of money in freight charges for the three countries, the dispatch adds.

CASTRO CONGRATULATES ORTEGA ON ANNIVERSARY

PA181659 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Sep 85 p 5

[Message from Cuban President Fidel Castro Ruz to President Daniel Ortega Saavedra on the occasion of the 164th anniversary of Nicaraguan independence; date not given]

[Text] On the occasion of the 164th anniversary of the proclamation of Nicaragua's independence, I am pleased to express, on behalf of the Cuban Government and people, our fraternal congratulations. The brotherhood between the Cuban and Nicaraguan people is rooted in a historical struggle against the common enemies of the peoples: colonialism, neocolonialism, imperialism, exploitation, misery, backwardness, and economic dependence. OUr brotherhood has been further strengthened by our common, solidaristic struggle to build a more promising future for our peoples.

Today Nicaragua faces not only the overwhelming task of overcoming a critical situation of underdevelopment brought about by centuries of exploitation, but it is also trying to accomplish this amid a political, military, and economic aggression unleashed by the United States, which is trying to reverse history and the Nicaraguan revolutionary process. However, as our Jose Marti said: "When a people embark on a revolution, they do not give up until their objectives are accomplished...."

Yankee imperialism spares no efforts in its aggressive escalation against revolutionary Nicaragua; the support for mercenary forces, economic pressure, political maneuvers, and the systematic campaign of lies and misinformation about what is going on in that country are all part of the activity carried out by the U.S. Government aimed at spoiling efforts by the Nicaraguan Government to achieve a just, negotiated peace, and to destroy the popular Nicaraguan revolution.

We are sure that, guided by the revolutionary ideology of Augusto Cesar Sandino and Carlos Fonseca Amador and under the skillful leadership of the FSLN and the government, the heroic people of Nicaragua will achieve their noble objectives.

We wish to reiterate that the solidaristic support and collaboration of the people and Government of the Republic of Cuba will always be firm and unyielding.

Companero president, receive on behalf of all the Nicaraguan people our admiration and respect.

Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of State and Government of the Republic of Cuba

CEREMONY FOR SOLIDARITY WITH ETHIOPIA HELD

FL171640 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1406 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Cuba and Socialist Ethiopia, a ceremony was held in the Ethiopian Economic Cooperation office in Havana between Cuban internationalists and Ethiopian personnel working in Havana. (Marielena Pollack) member of the Ethiopian office stressed that Cuban scholarships granted to Ethiopian students are an example of solidarity between the two peoples.

MONTANE PRESIDES OVER SYMPOSIUM ON ZIONISM

FL122014 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Text] Alternate Politburo member Jesus Montane Oropeza presided over the opening ceremony of a symposium on Zionism and the International Community, which began today in Havana. The ceremony was held at the Arab Union Headquarters and was attended by around 100 delegates from different countries.

Armando Entralgo, director of the African and Mid-Eastern Studies Center, welcomed the participants and pointed out the symposium's importance in unmasking ties between Zionism and imperialism. He underscored that Israel's aggressive and arrogant behavior is supported by Washington and the international financial burgeoisie and that, since its beginning, Zionism has been a reactionary force against the world's workers movement.

ALONSO RETIRES, RECEIVES LAZARO PENA ORDER

FL121335 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Text] Cuba's Council of State has awarded the Lazaro Pena Order, First Class, to the veteran communist fighter Arsenio Alonso on his 75th birthday. Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, Politburo member, placed the highly esteemed decoration on Alonso's chest who is retiring as deputy chief of the General Affairs Department of the Central Committee.

POLITBURO MEMBER MACHADO ATTENDS CADRE MEETING

FL111646 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1421 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura has indicated, at a national party professional cadres meeting held in Pinar del Rio, that the province's political organization is ready to perform better quality work in all areas. The party leader said Pinar del Rio, like the rest of the provinces in the country, is characterized by stability of its work in organizing and having experienced cadres. Machado Ventura underscored that assessment meetings have reached a new stage in quality, which will provide for a much better consolidated organization when the third congress is held. The participants' discussions and the Politburo member's remarks focused on party methods and style of work.

SURINAME

BILLITON AGREES ON PAY RAISE, STRIKE CALLED OFF

FL111900 Bridgetown CANA in English 2225 GMT 10 Sep 85

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Sep 10, CANA-REUTER -- A 13-day strike at Suriname's largest bauxite mine has been called off after the Dutch company, Billiton, agreed to award its 800 workers a five per cent pay rise, military ruler Lieutenant Colonel Desi Bouterse said. Billiton, a subsidiary of Royal Dutch Shell, granted the pay rise on the understanding that it will be followed by a two year pay freeze from 1986, he told reporters. Billiton will not pay its workers for a two-week go-slow staged in July to back wage demands, as the bauxite workers federation had demanded, Bouterse said. The dispute was finally settled today after 36 hours of continuous talks between a government negotiating team comprising Bouterse, Prime Minister Wim Udenhout and Natural Resources Minister Kenneth Koole, and representatives of the Billiton management and labour force. Normal work at the mine at Onverwacht, 25 km south of Paramaribo, will resume tomorrow, Bouterse said.

Billiton said last month that it expected to lose 27.8 million dollars on its Suriname operations this year after 21.3 million in 1984, due to the current slump in world aluminium prices. Bauxite, alumina and aluminium account for 80 per cent of the exports of this former Dutch colony in South America, which is suffering from an acute shortage of foreign exchange to finance basic imports. Many imported food items are in short supply, and the local cigarette factory closed down over a week ago after running out of tobacco. A prolonged strike at Billiton would have made the country's payments situation even more critical.

URUGUAY

UNION'S GENERAL STOPPAGE PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL

PY192106 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1423 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Montevideo, 19 Sep (EFE) -- The main Uruguayan labor confederation today called the first general stoppage since democracy was restored in the country. The stoppage is being partially complied with, and is scheduled to last for 24 hours. So far, no problems have been reported. The interunion Workers Plenum called the strike in solidarity with the railroad workers who have been striking for 5 weeks, demanding better wages, among other claims. The unionists said that this strike aims at prodding the government into finding a prompt solution to the railroad workers problem. Labor Minister Hugo Fernandez Faingol asserted that the motivation behind the general strike is essentially political.

The response to the stoppage is partial. Unlike official and private banks, state offices have opened their doors. Newspapers were not published, but radio and television stations are broadcasting their normal programs. Business spokesmen told EFE that Carrasco International Airport is closed but there is international land transportation and the Hovercrafts that connect Uruguay to Argentina are operating normally. Education Ministry authorities affirmed that state schools and high schools are having classes, but some universities, like some stores, are partially complying with the strike. Meanwhile, 14 Uruguayan workers and students are on their fourth day of a hunger strike, demanding a prompt solution to the railroad workers conflict from the executive branch.

According to a U.S. Gallup poll, 62 percent of the inhabitants of Montevideo, where half of the Uruguayan population lives, is said to be against the general stoppage. The poll also showed that 27 percent of Montevideo residents considered the union strike an appropriate measure, while 11 percent chose not to give their opinion.